The Great American Teach-in
BY CHUCK SCAFFIDI, MG Editor

In the fall of each year, Progress Energy Sponsors the Great American Teach-in. The purpose of the Teach-in is to have people from all walks of life talk to students in school about their careers and personal experiences.

Extension has been a participant for many years. Staff and volunteers have graciously offered a day to these students to tell them about the varied careers within our own ranks.

Following are stories from a few that enjoyed sharing their workplace stories this year, and hopefully more of you will want to feel the benefit it gives to our children and will join us next year.

I have been participating in this educational learning program for the past 5 years and only wish I had started sooner. It's an honor to be able to tell our youth what your work life was all about and to see in their eyes the interest generated by the stories we tell.

This year over a hundred 5th grade students attended my lecture which caused some apprehension on my part. I always worry about speaking at the level of these listeners and if my subject matter may overwhelm them. Then I'm reminded about watching the cable program "do you think you're smarter than a fifth grader" and the answer is no. They were well prepared.

My subject was about working for NASA for 30+ years and being deeply involved in the Hubble Space Telescope program and its repair missions in space. In May, 2009, Hubble was repaired for the fourth and last time and consequently there were abundant and varied handouts. NASA sends me boxes of educational material every year including photos of Hubble’s discoveries of the Universe, badges, pens, and other items all of which are a big hit.

You can see how excited I am about this experience, so much that I want to keep writing about it, but I better end my story now with a little advice: Do it! Teach-in is rewarding for both you and the students.

I received over 50 thank you letters from the children at Starkey. A heartwarming student letter is shown on page 9.

Volunteering in the Schools
By Jean Barnes, Volunteer

Most of my volunteer hours are spent in administrative tasks since my computer skills are often in demand in managing non-profit organizations. But Wednesday morning, I spent some time volunteering for the American Legion Auxiliary at the Madeira Beach Elementary School.

The Auxiliary has a video tape they have used previously for school groups about the United States Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance. Since the Pledge has many “big” words, the Auxiliary attempts to explain the meaning of the words in the pledge to children.
We are especially appreciative of staff, MGs, and others who contribute articles, events, and other items of interest to The Green Leaf each month. Please submit your input by the 20th of each month. This will help us assemble and publish the newsletter in a timely manner. Also, to save mailing costs, please limit your articles to 700-800 words or less. Limited newsletter space does not allow for full photograph viewing. If you would like a copy of any photograph presented in the newsletters, please contact me @ 727-582-2117.

Chuck Scaffidi
MG Editor

The Green Leaf is published by Pinellas County Extension for the County Master Gardeners and depends on submission of articles from Master Gardeners, Extension Staff and other authors.

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Please send articles to cascaffidi@juno.com The Green Leaf is available on-line by clicking on “newsletter” at:

http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/home_landscape/mg/intro.shtml

I visited both fifth grade classrooms and first grade classrooms. Most kids have no association with the events and history referred to in the Pledge. The video explains what the words mean in ways that the children can make sense of.

After the video, the representative asked questions to see if the children understood what they heard. Most could repeat back what was in the video. A couple of the fifth graders were unsure if the 50 stars referred to states – instead they said there were 50 countries in the United States. The teacher corrected them but you could see that the concept of a "state" was difficult for them to understand.

Then the children were asked if they have any family members who have been in a war, or in the service. The fifth graders knew which family members had served in the military and in which wars, while the first graders knew that the family member had been in the military but were unsure of the wars, probably because they had no concept of that.

The experience was interesting to me in a number of ways. Primarily, it put me in touch with children in a learning situation which I have no association with at this point in my life – a reminder of the true inheritors of our society and the future of our country. I needed to be reminded of this. It also made me think of my brother’s service to his country with his medals he brought back from Vietnam. I was jolted out of my complacent enjoyment of my life into a recognition that we need to continually experience new things in our “golden years” to put into prospective the purpose in our community and the hope for the future – the children.

Editor’s Comments: We know that many of the staff and volunteers participated in the Great American Teach-in. From our own Extension office we had Mary Campbell, Erhan Ozey, Vestina Crayton, James Stevenson, Margaret Deller, and Janet Golden presented biofuel experiments. Other natural resource topics were provided by Jane Morse, Cindy Peacock, Wilma Holley, Jean Rogalsky and Betty Lipe. Our total outreach was to 11 schools with almost 1400 youth.
The Holiday Lights Extravaganza Has Begun!!

Exciting!! The first weekend of the grand opening of the Holiday Lights was an overwhelming success! Yes, it’s too early to toot our horns but the extraordinary preparations made by our Holiday Light team paid off in a spectacular opening. The crowds with their cheerful and kind expressions showed us they were delighted to be part of this opening holiday celebration. And especially thanks to our entertainment director, Barbara Goss, for thrilling us with the many performers that made us feel that this truly was a family friendly holiday time.

Many of you have already signed up to help us in the evenings. If you have not signed up and even if you have, consider signing up for more nights. The lights stay on until Sunday night January 3rd, there are still slots open, especially the week between Christmas and New Year's. Don’t forget for volunteering you can log time and a half for these nights.

Carrie Shelby and other volunteers were encouraged by the teamwork shown. She shared that, “this type of volunteering is different than any other. You get to be in a beautifully lit nighttime garden. Meet new friends. Work and play side by side with others who love the gardens. If this holiday fundraiser is a success as anticipated, you get to see your efforts go towards enriching these gardens”.

I want to thank Mary Campbell and Paul Cozzie and their staff for their support as part of our holiday lights team. Their involvement demonstrates that this is a truly cooperative team effort.

Wish us well!!
Chuck Scaffidi, FBGF Chair

For more information about the Holiday Lights, entertainment schedule and FBGF membership click the following link:
FBGF Holiday Lights Link to Webpage
**Common Citrus Problems**

By JANE MORSE, University of Florida/IFAS Pinellas County Extension Agent

**Rust mites**: A common occurrence this time of year is to see oranges that have brown, rough areas. This is most likely rust mite damage (unless it smells rotten). Rust mite damage is nothing to worry about as it doesn't affect the taste of the fruit, it just makes the outside not look completely orange.

If you want perfectly orange rinds, spray your trees in March or April with a horticultural oil (use an oil that lists paraffinic oil as the active ingredient). Always read and follow directions exactly as indicated on the label of pesticides.

**Leafminers**: This is another common problem on citrus. Leaves will look misshapen and one can see serpentine tunnels on the leaf surface. Mature trees are not harmed by this slight damage to their leaves. Not much control is available. Either accept the damage and do nothing, or during the spring growth flush spray the tree with horticultural oil twice, spaced two weeks apart. Very young trees can be hurt by the loss of leaf surface that leafminers cause. Young trees should be treated with horticultural oil during the spring growth flush.

**Citrus scab**: Water is the single most important factor affecting the severity of this disease. This disease only needs to be controlled on fruit intended for the fresh fruit market. It is only a serious disease on certain varieties of citrus. It mainly affects lemon, Murcotts, Minneola and Temple varieties and is often a problem on grapefruit. Avoid overhead irrigation that spreads scab. Install drip or micro-sprinkler irrigation. Copper sprays also can be applied 2-3 weeks after petal fall, and again 2-3 weeks later to control scab.

**Greasy spot**: This can be seen on both the top or the underside of the leaf. It looks just like a spot (or many spots) of grease. The main impact of greasy spot is reduction of tree vigor. This is a disease that occurs in the summertime from infected leaves that have fallen on the ground. Once you have greasy spot, the cheapest, simplest, most effective control strategy is to remove and destroy the infected fallen citrus leaves near tree. Make sure you pick up and dispose of these infected leaves. Leaving them around the tree or using them as mulch will cause the disease to recur. Make sure the old infected leaves are destroyed before summer rains occur. Spray the tree with horticulture oil between June 15th and July 15th to control this disease. Copper sprays can also control greasy spot.

**Foot rot**: This is a very common disease. The first symptoms of foot rot are water soaking of the bark in irregular patches and oozing of varying amounts of gum. Over time, the diseased bark dries out, settles, cracks and weathers off, with the wood beneath the bark stained brown. The canopy may show nutrient deficiency symptoms, especially nitrogen, reduction in leaf and fruit size, leaf drop and dieback, and a general reduction in tree vigor.

The fungus that causes this disease belongs to a group of organisms called "water molds," which do well under high soil moisture. Symptoms usually occur after heavy rains or excess watering which promote infection of plant tissue. This same fungus also causes brown rot to occur on fruit.

*Article continues on bottom of page 5.*
Common Citrus Problems—Continued from page 4.

Although mulching can prevent weed growth and conserve water, piling mulch up against the tree trunk makes your tree prone to infection by limiting air circulation. It also provides a path for the fungus to get from the soil to the tree. Anything you can do to encourage air circulation at the base of the tree will help. Prune low hanging branches that scrape the ground (this will also help to control brown rot of fruit) and remove plant and soil debris from around the trunk. Since this fungus usually enters the tree through wound tissue, be very careful when hoeing, mowing or weed whacking around the tree. Any wounds made to the tree can allow infection to occur.

If your tree has already developed foot rot, scrape off the brown, discolored bark and surface wood until you reach healthy wood and paint the exposed area with a copper paint.

Want to know which tools to use for pest and disease management? Homeowners usually only need to apply horticultural oil, insecticidal soap or copper fungicide to control pests and disease. There are many beneficial-bugs that help to keep pest-bug populations under control. By using horticultural oils and insecticidal soaps most of the beneficial-bugs are saved, while the pest bugs are killed. Beneficial-bugs do us a great service and help to keep most pest-bug populations under control. Using hard chemicals that kill all bugs, including the beneficial-bugs, can actually cause an explosion of pest-bugs to occur. So stay away from the hard, conventional pesticides, especially those that keep killing for a long time. You do NOT need them and they usually make the problem worse.

Information for this article was obtained from: *Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide: Common Pests, Diseases and Disorders of Dooryard Citrus.* See this link for the full publication: [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/HS122](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/HS122)
Herb Garden Volunteers
By RUTH DAVIES, MG

The herb garden gets its weekly grooming on Tuesday mornings by a loyal crew. This past year presented more challenges for us than we could imagine. Mainly, we lost our hort agent, Allen Cordell to retirement. I must say, he has more knowledge about herbs and their use. He visits us monthly, and we make his head spin with questions.

Water or lack of water is a continuing nightmare. Our backup plants are scarce, as the pots dry out quickly and the plants end up in the compost. A windstorm helped eliminate the little shade we had in the herb garden. In the past 7 years, a lemon eucalyptus died and this year two moringa trees were cut down, the lipstick tree died, the chaya tree is now a propagated foot-high replacement and we chose to cut down the curry tree that sent out suckers for 30 feet. The lack of shade has shocked many of the herbs into the compost pile. A backup eucalyptus was recently planted to shade the wheel.

Two master gardeners who have volunteered the longest are Tom Carrell and Wayne Sulecki. Their most involved projects were when the garden was converted from mulched paths to the existing more formal garden. These two cut the wood and assembled the fence in the front and side of the herb garden. When that was done and the bricks were laid, their job was to install irrigation lines. The torri in the oriental garden is their work and was repainted last year by new MG, David DeLaMarter. The most recent woodworking project was the lattice shade arbor for the coffee plants.

Ann Brown, another seasoned master gardener, has battled shade and a shallow garden bed to maintain the knot garden. She has a thing for perfume and takes care of the mint pots and scented geraniums. She’s also been seen pulling weeds – she’s the person upside down.

MG Marian Cirello, shopper extraordinaire, purchased (with plant sale money) the birdbath, a welcome mat out for the birds. She keeps the wormwood trimmed and growing underneath too. When the lavender plants passed away from summer humidity, Marian cried a little bit, but we have new ones for the winter.

Vicki Jackson fits her MG volunteer hours in after her tax time job finishes. She’s carefully watching the Puerto Rican oregano that we cut down this spring. It needs to be maintained monthly to keep it from becoming woody. The moujean tea is one of her favorites, as she gets to keep the trimmings for homemade tea.

Cheryl Korschek keeps her hand in as much as possible while she also supports the North county help desk. Thus, she gets to analyze the problems we encounter. She also keeps the boxes filled with info about our individual gardens.

Lynn and Louise Shelton are two dedicated volunteers who joined us this summer. Lynn and Tom dug to China trying to remove the curry tree stump and roots. Then we asked him to dig another hole to put in a new lemon eucalyptus. And he didn’t complain! The gravel paths have never looked as good, as he keeps them raked clean and then goes after the litter on the brick paths. Louise generously plants, waters and prunes.

To provide plants at the lowest cost for the herb garden, crew members started seeds and will be planted when they are large enough. Recently, the crew, with Wayne’s guidance, had some fun making grapevine wreaths to hang on the fence of the herb garden and one for the cottage garden. November is the best time to prune grapes, so this was a dual-purpose exercise. The decorations on the wreaths also are gleaned from gardens.

Once a month the crew weeds and plants colorful flowers in the cottage garden. Pruning of the climbing rose and podocarpus hedge are critical on our monthly schedule.

Many MGs and volunteers have helped maintain this unique garden, and we appreciate when they can join us. Volunteers are welcome to join us for propagation, pruning, planting, weeding and watering Tuesday mornings. Just come and introduce yourself; there’s always something waiting to be done.

Ruth Davies finished the MG class in 2002 and immediately dug into the herb garden with Allen Cordell, leader and mentor, to learn all aspects of the growing and use of herbs.
A Visit to Pam's Paradise
by Pat DIETERICH, Master Gardener

It could be argued that more Master Gardeners had not gathered outdoors all at once since our last Plant Sale! Over 30 MG's braved a gloomy morning to visit Pam Brown's garden in East Lake Woodlands, where we were treated to a wonderful display. The theory that a garden reflects its owner rang true—this one was as classy as "our" Pam.

Beginning at the front door with its charming entry garden, Pam explained that a major challenge of living adjacent to Brooker Creek Park is the deer, and their voracious appetite for landscape plants. Sometimes their "trimming" is exhaustive and fatal, as well as capricious and frustrating. Nonetheless, Pam's entry boasts a healthy potted gardenia, a handsome sculptural fountain, and lovely pots filled with colorful blooms, with solar-powered dragonflies and butterflies as accents.

Despite its location far to the north in Pinellas, Pam's front yard features elegant palm trees, including a "jelly" palm, and a magnificent towering Bismark palm, lovingly nurtured from five-gallon size seven years ago. A female Yaupon holly upright provides contrast. Side beds bearing a fresh layer of chopped eucalyptus mulch reveal several clumps of Riley showers grass, bluish with pink flowers, and striking rows of variegated flax.

Pam's back yard overlooks Brooker Creek Park, and the Florida pine forest almost draws one in. Besides the rain barrels along side of the house, the back yard features a discreet compost bin—this is one horticulturalist who practices what she preaches. Adjacent to the pool area, an oak tree shelters numerous bromeliads, while healthy orchids in terra cotta pots spill from wire baskets hanging from its branches, a smart solution to the "where do I put this one?" conundrum we all experience.

Banana trees attest to Pam's interest in edible plants, and upon entering the pool area one is surprised to discover the vegetable garden. There, cleverly elevated grow-boxes sport peppers and broccoli, and seedlings and herbs abound. There's even a tomato growing upside down, and looking good. A fragrant rose bush shares the sunny corner. Pam has used palmetto fronds to create the decorative pattern on the storage bin, a unique and pleasing touch.

Another excellent garden—so many interesting plants and features to view and appreciate, from the orange and green chlorophytum to the cute frog clock. Ever the educator, Pam distributed questionnaires, asking for five suggestions to improve her garden. The MG's I spoke to agreed, "Don't change a thing!" I couldn't wait to get home to water, fertilize, and trim—thank you for the inspiration, and the tour of your paradise.
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- MG Update Meetings
- MG Tour
- MG Discounts
- FBG Membership
- Extension Classes
- Neighborhood Gardener
- FL Friendly Landscape
- Get a Disney Day

- Master Gardener Update Schedule - Mark Your Calendar!
  - Tuesday, December 8, 9AM—Elizabeth Austin from Crime Prevention Task Force will discuss Home, Auto, Personal and Identity Theft
  - Friday, January 8, 9AM—Dave Palmer, IFAS, Internet Security: Virus Protection, Potluck

- Upcoming MG Garden Tours
  - Wednesday, December 9 in St. Petersburg at Phil Stager’s 4184 51st Ave S.

- Benefits to FBGF Membership and Master Gardener Certification
  We have identified nursery owners in our communities who are willing to offer a 10% discount to members of the Florida Botanical Gardens and to Master Gardeners. When you make a purchase at these businesses, please present your membership card for the discount. We will continue to contact nurseries in the area to secure additional participants to this program.

The following provide discounts:
Art Stone Orchids, Earthscapes Garden Room
Kathy’s Korner, Palm Harbor Nursery & Landscaping
Wilcox Nursery, and Willow Tree Nursery.

Newest addition! Country Club Nursery, 9850 Starkey Rd, Largo 33777
(727)397-4438, Mon-Sat 8:30AM-5PM, Sun 9AM-4PM, 10% discount

- Holiday Gift Ideas
  Help support the gardens. Please consider giving friends, family, co-workers, and/or clients a gift of membership to the Florida Botanical Gardens. Besides receiving discounts at local nurseries, members enjoy free or discounted admission to gardens in 44 states, Canada and the Caribbean and sometimes a discount in their gift shops. Membership money enriches the lives of your loved ones and thousands of others who visit the gardens each year.

For more information contact Stacy Zidi at 727-582-2251 or visit the FBG Foundation website: http://www.flbg.org/foundation.htm

- Series of Extension Classes - Mark your Calendar!
  The following classes will be offered at Extension for free to MGs, Volunteers and FBGF members that register. When you attend you must show one of the membership cards. All others pay a nominal fee of $15 to attend. Please see Extension’s on-line calendar page for details and to register.
  - Tuesday, December 15, 6-8:30PM Rain Harvesting!
  - Saturday, January 9, 9-10:30AM Common Lawn & Garden Problems
  - Tuesday, January 19 & 26, 6-8:30PM Florida Style Gardening

- The Neighborhood Gardener
  "The Neighborhood Gardener" is the monthly e-newsletter from the University of Florida Master Gardener and the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods programs. It is available on the Florida Master Gardener Web site http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/newsletter/newsletters.shtml.
**Florida Friendly Landscape Project**
The Low Water Usage and Rainfall Only project areas in the front of the Extension Building are finally underway! With the help of the Wednesday and Thursday Crews, and several project team members we have begun the process of ordering plant materials while removing the old landscape. With the help of Kathy's Korner Nursery on Haines Road in St. Pete we were able to purchase many plants at cost, saving quite a bit of money.

I also want to thank the Monday crew, under the direction of Linda Culhane for all their help in propagating plants. Many have been planted and more are on their way. These two areas should be completed by the new year and then we will concentrate on the Moderate Usage Area which is adjacent to the walkway to the building.

If you are interested in helping with the future plantings, please contact Terry Berube at tberube@tampabay.rr.com

**Give a Day. Get a Disney Day.**
BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010, when you sign up to volunteer a day of service with a participating organization (and your service is completed and verified) you'll get one day admission to a Walt Disney World® or Disneyland® theme park, FREE! Disney wants to inspire one million people to volunteer a day of service. Visit the website for more information: Give a day. Get a Disney Day.

**Recording Your Volunteer Hours**
Please Remember to Sign Out!
- The computer program for logging volunteer hours is outside the volunteer office, near the help desk.
- You must sign in and sign out when you are at Extension.
- You can still log your time in the book or use e-mail, but it is preferred that you use the computer sign-in sign-out method.
- With over 200 volunteers at Extension it becomes a considerable burden on the volunteer coordinators to manually enter your hours.

When not at Extension email your hours to: cascaffidi@juno.com

Please direct your questions to coordinator Chuck Scaffidi or assistant, Emma Eshbaugh.

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Dear Mr. Scaffidi,

I very much enjoyed learning about space and NASA and one thing I really enjoyed was the video about the bubble and how they repair it. I can't wait for the new telescope that looks like honeycomb to fly up you have inspired me to want to research and learn more about space this week I'm going to have my grandma take me to the library to get some info about space, and NASA's plans.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

PS. thanks for the goodies and knowledge.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS

For December & January

- Magic Beans
- Science Fair Judges

- MGs Needed for a Garden for Growing Magic Beans
  Hi fellow Master Gardeners...it's Daina Graziunas. class of 2003. Are you looking for a fun, exciting community project to sink your teeth into? Then, quite possibly, I've got just the right "mission" for you - if you choose to accept it. Intrigued?
  There is a farm in Safety Harbor, on MLK Blvd (formerly 4th St N) nearly at the intersection of McMullen Booth. Where Magic Beans (Village), a nonprofit founded 5 years ago, which works with special needs youngsters and adults in a "fully integrated, abled and disabled community setting teaches: therapeutic riding, horseback riding classes, social riding clubs, as well as horse grooming and care skills. Arts, herbs and animal therapies, will also be taught when BEANS classrooms in town are up and running.
  So Magic Beans Board asked me, as a Master Gardener, to find a way to install a vegetable garden (together with an automatic timer-controlled drip watering system) so we can teach gardening classes. And create fresh, delicious and healthy vegetables and herbs for the BEANS cooking classes. Show nutritious eating can be scrumptious! Grow pride and self esteem. Create culinary, personal care and aromatic products for sale in the local farmers' market, flea markets and the Internet.
  Problem was I knew absolutely nothing (zip!) about growing vegetables. So I spent 3 months doing homework. at Heritage Village. There I met Paige Noel, Heritage Village historian and many terrific Master Gardeners I did not know before this - who generously shared their knowledge and let me take a close look at their work. Most notably, Ray Fellenbaum, who built the Heritage Village pvc pipe automatic drip-watering system. This was needed to replace their drip-watering hoses, as the hoses rotted away in no time. Ray helped me to create a tight proposal: wish-list/cost breakdown for MAGIC BEANS garden project. I picked the brain of my Master Gardener mentor, Donna Zacharczyk, repeatedly. Visited Linda Culhane for her invaluable advice. And the Safety Harbor Garden Club, spearheaded by President Gisela Bennie, very generously donated $250 toward MAGIC BEANS test bed and watering system. Cost of test bed and watering system is $608. We need another $358 to reach our goal. Then we can implement the first part, hopefully by January.
  The complete garden with low raised beds, soil amendments and plant material will need another $726 – for a grand total of $1334. But if the pizza garden MAGIC BEANS would like to plant in spring doesn't happen 'til fall – that will give more time to fundraise, if needed. Chuck Scaffidi has a copy of the garden project proposal. Or you can contact me directly, if you would like to see it.
  Don't know what else to tell you, except that when Ray came up to the farm to help me measure, site and position the garden – well, he fell in love with the place. All of it: the proposed garden site, the horses and the quiet area in the back, that as long as anyone can remember, has been called Sleepy Hollow.
  If this sounds like something that speaks to your heart, then you can call me on my home phone 532-9055 or cell 403-1141. Secret is we are all MAGIC BEANS. Come back to this Garden. It's home.

- Friends of Science for the Pinellas Regional Science Fair
  The 2010 regional fair will be held at Seminole Middle School on Saturday, February 6th from 8am until approximately 3pm. Assistance is needed in judging the students' projects at the science fair. To find out more details and register to be a judge please contact Paul Dickman at the Center for Advanced Technologies, by phone: 727-893-2609 or email dickman@cat.pcsb.org.
Can you feel it in the air? The excitement, the buzz, the energy! All kinds of new things are happening here at Extension. As you may have noticed our place is getting more colorful with lights and plants.

The new demonstration gardens are starting to take shape. These gardens have been a long time coming (almost 5 years in the planning), so it is very exciting to see them coming to fruition. These gardens will be our teaching tools to educate the public about water usage and more in the garden (landscapes don’t need as much water as people think they do).

We are also planning to have a micro-irrigation demonstration as part of this educational garden. All of this will be a great way to showcase what a Florida-friendly landscape can look like while conserving water, creating habitat and looking beautiful too. I hope you are as excited as I am about this wonderful teaching opportunity.

We also have the Holiday Lights gearing up for a spectacular show in the formal Botanical Gardens. The FBG Foundation has been hard at work to make this a wonderful event. This is also a great opportunity to get people to come to our Florida Botanical Gardens and find out more about UF/IFAS Extension and what we do. We have the new Extension brochure, out just in time, to give them a snippet of what Extension does for people and the community.

We also have some more clearly defined lines between what Parks will be supervising and what Extension will be supervising. Parks has taken the lead over FBG formal gardens and Extension has taken the lead over all the FBG demonstration gardens and areas on the west side of the creek. We still have some figuring to do to see how all this falls into place, but we’re working on it.

As always, we are very appreciative of you and all of the hard work you do to “extend” our reach into the Pinellas County Extension, FBG gardens and into the community. Keep up the great work you are doing, because you do make a huge difference. We would be lost, failing and falling without you and what you do.

Best of all, the UF/IFAS will be advertising for a new Urban Horticulture (MG) Agent position in Pinellas County that was vacated by Pam Brown. Hooray!!

A new year is dawning and I think it will be awesome, just like you!

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**2009 December**

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| TUES DEC 8, 9AM | MG Update  
Home, Auto, Personal and Identity Theft |
| TUES DEC 15, 6:30-8PM | Rain Harvesting at Extension |
| THRU JAN 3, 6-10PM | Holiday Lights at the Botanical Gardens  
Family friendly event  
Gift Shop open Fri & Sat  
Entertainment nightly  
Vendors & Refreshments |

**Looking Ahead!**

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| FRI JAN 8, 9AM | MG Update & Potluck  
Home, Auto, Personal and Identity Theft |
| SAT, JAN 9, 9-10:30AM | Common Lawn & Garden Problems at Extension |
| TUES, JAN 19 & 26, 6-8:30PM | Florida Style Gardening at Extension |

**MG Plant Clinic at the Palm Harbor Library –Wednesdays from 10AM to 2PM**

Master Gardeners offer diagnostic services along with information about identifying plants, treatment for insects and ideas for Florida-friendly landscaping.

For details on some of the events listed go to the calendar on the Pinellas County Extension Lawn & Garden website.  
Happy Holidays Volunteers!

Reminder—Mark Your Calendar!

- MG Update
  Tuesday, December 8 at 9AM

Jane Morse
Acting
Extension Agent II, Environmental Horticulture

The enclosed material is provided as one of the many services relating to the educational programs offered by this agency. Our statewide network of faculty is prepared to provide current information on food, agriculture, marine and natural resource science, energy, nutrition, family and 4-H youth, and related fields. We will be happy to help you with additional information upon request.

Holiday Lights in the Gardens
at Florida Botanical Gardens
Nov. 28, 2009 - Jan. 3, 2010
6-10pm
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo www.flbg.org