Excitement Surrounds Us!

Tree City USA Award, Presented to Chuck Scaffidi

By Joanne Drake, Master Gardener

Tree City USA Award is presented annually by the National Arbor Day Foundation. This year it was presented to our own Master Gardener, Chuck Scaffidi, President of our Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation on April 27, 2013, at the Green Thumb Festival.

Chuck is an amazing man who has excelled in so many aspects of life. He knows how to motivate others, in a gentle way to accomplish what needs to be done. Just look at all the beauty that surrounds us in the gardens at the Extension Center and The Florida Botanical Gardens! The Master Gardeners, Garden Volunteers, and the County employees have worked very hard to expand and beautify the Gardens.

In 1951, Chuck joined the Air Force and spent four years flying in The Strategic Air Command. He finished his engineering program at The University of Buffalo in 1956, the same year he married Joan. In 1964, Chuck moved his family to Maryland where he worked at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. His main position was a senior manager for the Hubble Space Telescope Project.

Chuck retired in 1995 but kept busy as a consultant for NASA for several years and spent more time in Florida. He and Joan permanently relocated to Florida to be near her aging parents.

Chuck became a Pinellas County Master Gardener in 2000 and has volunteered over 20,000 hours, often more than 50 hours a week, becoming more involved with The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation, and then becoming the chair of the Foundation. The successful Holiday Lights is still expanding under his leadership. Another project we are all proud of is the annual Diggin’ the Arts in the Gardens. So many great ideas have come our way with Chuck’s guidance. Another project new to the Foundation is Art and Sculpture in the Gardens which has been Chuck’s vision in combining Art and Sculpture to the Gardens.

Thank You, Chuck for all you’ve done! As Volunteer Coordinator, You’ve really had a big hand in keeping our surroundings beautiful with the help of our Master Gardeners and Garden Volunteers.

To be eligible for the Tree City USA Award, a community must host an Arbor Day Program, pass a resolution proclaiming Arbor Day, plant trees and establish appropriate city ordinances to protect and manage trees. For more information on Tree City USA www.arborday.org/treecityusa

The award was presented at the Green Thumb Festival by Donna Zacharczyk and Mary Crowe. Opening remarks were by City Councilman Charlie Gerdes. Mary is ready to announce the winner.

Chuck was surprised!

Wow! was I surprised. That was a perfect plan-the FBI should have hired you two. I’m still recovering from the shock.
The Green Leaf is published by Pinellas County Extension for Master Gardeners and others. The monthly newsletter depends on submission of articles from Master Gardeners, Extension staff and other authors.

Please submit articles and photographs to cscaffidi@co.pinellas.fl.us

The Green Leaf and archives are available on-line by clicking on newsletter.

MANAGING EDITOR: Chuck Scaffidi, MG Volunteer

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 by the 20th of each month. This will help us assemble and publish the newsletter in a timely manner. Articles should be 700-800 words or less. If you would like a copy of any photograph printed in the newsletter, contact MG Editor Chuck Scaffidi at 727 582-2117.

cscaffidi@co.pinellas.fl.us

“In Recognition of Your Efforts as a Steward of the Environment”

The Florida Botanical Garden Foundation showcased a beautiful garden to promote “Discover Paradise in Pinellas County” and also staffed a booth to promote the FBG Foundation.

Emma Eshbaugh and Richard Berube in left photo and Richard and Terry Berube in photo below.
Butterfly Plant of the Month at FBG
Lavender Weeping Lantana: Indispensable Nectar Plant

By Ellen Mahany, MG

Weeping or Trailing Lantana (Lantana montevidensis) blooms year round as a spreading ground cover. Because its nectar attracts several butterfly species, it is indispensable in any butterfly garden. In a smaller garden it will look lovely in hanging baskets and large containers, by itself or combined with other plants.

At Florida Botanical Gardens you will find this ground cover behind another ground cover, Namu, near the sidewalk east of the Extension Building entrance and directly south of Butterfly Station.

This low maintenance favorite grows in sun or shade and in any kind of soil. It is drought tolerant and salt tolerant.

The vine-like stems reach a height between 18 and 24 inches. In the spring lantana can be trimmed back to about 12 inches from the center and sprinkled lightly with slow release fertilizer. Lavender combines well with every other color in the garden. Consider planting this ground cover near such host plants, for instance, as Purple Passion Vine, host plant for both the Gulf Fritillary and the Zebra Longwing; orange-blooming natural milkweed, host for both the Monarch and Queen, and various yellow-blooming sennas, host plants for sulphur butterflies.

A necessary warning is that this plant is poisonous if consumed by human beings or animals.

Pictured here, top left to bottom right, are some of the butterfly species (with photo credits) that sip from this popular nectar plant: Monarch (Andrei Sourakov, Florida Museum of History), Zebra Longwing and Gulf Fritillary (Butterfly Sheets 1, UF), Polydamus and Spicebush Swallowtails (Jerry Butler, UF) Longtailed Skipper (UF Entymology Department), American Snout and Red Admiral (Donald Hall, UF) White Peacock, Barred Yellow and Viceroy (Edith Smith). The Viceroy, which prefers fruit over nectar, eats the pulp surrounding the seed, as seen here.
Thank You Volunteer Services!!

Volunteer Services Honored their Pinellas County volunteers at a special celebration on April 25 at the Armed Forces History Museum.

This well attended event treated the volunteers as stars with lots of delicious food and soft drinks, greetings from Human Resources, Communications, Parks and Recreation Departments, and other County employees. Circulating to greet and talk to the guests were Bob LaSala, County Administrator, Commissioner Karen Seel and other County Department heads.

Chances to receive a memento from this event were offered and to my surprise I received a 1 year membership to the museum. Showing it off in the photo with (L to R) name unknown, Me (Chuck), Cantrece Harmon, and Commissioner Karen Seel.

Chuck
Volunteers Honored for Their Recognized Service

BY CHUCK SCAFFIDI, Editor

“Did we think we could surprise Jack Moss for his 85th birthday? Well “our MG gang” that Jack founded about 10 years ago decided to turn the tables on Jack. The last few years Jack graciously organized my birthday party. Now it was time to surprise Jack. He called everyone to come to my party as we planned his party. The conspiracy worked and we all gathered at the Olive Garden for lunch to surprise Jack. It was a success.

Jack and I have the most wonderful relationship. We met 9 years ago when he asked me if I would join him in authoring IFAS awards for outstanding MGs and their projects. At the time I did not know Jack’s background or the work he was involved in as a MG. He more than impressed me with his obsession about using correct words and I held back my opinions of that. Needless to say we did win a few awards for our MGs and it was due to the partnership that we had formed.

Well my curiosity got the better of me-I wondered who this man is? My research found a bio of Jack written by Jean Field in November of 2001. After reading it all I can say is wow.

Jack has touched so many people at Extension since his first volunteer day from the class of 1987. I have his bio in the volunteer office for your perusal. He truly is one of our outstanding MGs attested by the numerous honors and awards he has received.

Our friendship led to many tours we did at FBG, our infamous trips to the IFAS conferences, the visits to gardens, and a variety of other activities at Extension.

Time does pass quickly and Jack has cut back some of his time at Extension. At the party to honor him I asked Jack if it was all right to mention his age and he said in his typical fashion, “Yes, I’m proud to be 85”.

Gardening helps to keep us young and provides good fellowships!”

This is a newsletter article I wrote for the Green Leaf newsletter four years ago. Jack recently turned 89 and our “older” MG gang encouraged Jack to visit Extension where he was surprised again. For his 25 years of Master Gardener volunteer service he received a beautiful etched glass vase from the University of Florida/IFAS for volunteer service.

L to R. Theresa Badurek County Extension Agent, Marsha Williams-Colin, Donna Zacharczyk, Bob Albanese County Horticulturist, Jack Moss, Chuck Scaffidi, Joanne Drake, and Charlie Iserman.

Pam DeLong receiving a 10 year Master Gardener volunteer service award.
By Jude Bagatti, MG Volunteer

My yard (after ten years, I still cannot consider my humble plot of ground cultivated, landscaped or lush enough to call it a garden) has been a source of minor successes and major dismay. The modest lot is wooden-fenced on two sides and open to sidewalk and street on the other two, allowing stray cats, dogs, and sundry nocturnal creatures, including humans, free access. On a corner, my yard also catches food wrappers, plastic bags and a fair amount of butts and debris washed in from overflowing sidewalks after heavy rains, or flown in by stiff breezes.

I am forever un-planting oak seedlings from acorns squirrels keep burying where no oak tree belongs. Talk about the right plant in the right place! My squirrels could use some Extension Service training.

A huge possum meanders along the fence top causing my outdoor motion sensor light to flick on, and mini-sinkholes, too large to be squirrel-dug, have moon-cratered my earth. I suspect, but have not seen an armadillo. So far, no coyotes either.

In the past, marigolds, salvias, Simpson’s Stopper, Walter’s viburnam, native yellow lantana, wild coffee, staghorn ferns, pentas, a ponytail and other hopefully-interred plants, have succumbed from cold, neglect or unknown causes. I’ve had better results (luck) with hibiscus, beautyberry, firebush, milkweed, passionflower, flax lily, bromeliads, even a spooky, but beloved, voodoo lily transplanted from Hollywood, FL. I’ve also managed to grow lots of coontie from seed. When I travel I expect my plants, especially the natives, to fend for themselves, but I admit my failure to nurture some adequately until they were hearty enough to survive on their own. Did I mention I rarely fertilize?

This year the azaleas were confused. Well beyond January and into February mine showed no signs of budding. One year they bloomed as early as December. Two large azalea bushes were established and green-leaved when I bought my Gulfport house in the fall of 2002. I was green too, not even knowing what they were or what colorful profusion would soon burst forth. That first winter they took me by surprise with their sudden flowering brilliance: one lavender, one deep fuchia. In mid-February this year, those two finally awoke from winter’s lethargy and displayed buds. But four much smaller azaleas I planted while they bloomed two years ago, one coral and three white, showed no such budding promise. Is it because they’re in a yard, not a garden? They needed talking to, I decided.

Even during dry spells, I am notorious for watering only with what my single rain barrel offers, having noted plants react to rainwater more positively than to city water. What I do shower my plants with is love. I told these four young azaleas that due to the unusually warm, yet dry winter, I would understand if they skipped a year of blooming. I assured them they could take whatever time they needed; I would still love them. Just don’t die, I muttered under my breath. I murmured encouraging words to each separately, touched them gently, sprinkled Bustelo coffee grounds around after my morning espresso, and waited.

It was March before I got any response. Shortly after the two big, older azaleas were showy in full bloom, I began to find tiny buds on three of the young ones. The baby of them all, the littlest coral azalea bloomed first. Less than a foot tall, it outdid itself putting forth ample orange-pink blooms. Two of the small white azaleas, half a foot taller than the coral, flowered next, their pale petals brightening the yard and my face.

The third white azalea stood green but devoid of buds. It seemed this one really might skip a season. “It’s OK,” I whispered. “Just rest up for next year.” More coffee grounds, more sweet-talk, and then one day, weeks after the others were blooming, it formed the beginnings of buds! My pleasure was complete one morning when abundant white flowers finally appeared on this last young azalea. And, as though to keep its taller sibling company, the little coral put out a second round of orangey blossoms, after I thought it was all done.

Late bloomers, human or plant, offer surprises well worth the wait. That day I felt almost like a real gardener!

Contact Jude at 727-322-6211 or heyjudebagatti@gmail.com
Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation Update

By Chuck Scaffidi, FBG Foundation President

The next Foundation board meeting is on May 17 and visitors are welcome, especially anyone who may be interested in joining the board. By attending a meeting, you will get a better understanding of our organization and goals, and hopefully you will choose to become a board member.

Last chance to attend “Diggin the Arts” on May 5, a repeat of last year’s highly attended successful event. Please spread the word and make an effort to come and enjoy this popular event.

Following are the highlights, participating museums, and sponsors of this event:

**DIGGIN’ THE ARTS**

*May 5, 2013, 10 am to 4 pm*

**FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS**

12520 Ulmerton Road, LARGO, FL 33774

Florida Botanical Gardens in collaboration with Museum of Fine Arts of St. Petersburg, the Morean Center for Clay, the Florida Craftsmen, the Dunedin Fine Arts Center, the Dali Museum, The Suntan Arts Center and the Beach Arts Center. Enjoy museum-developed activities for the entire family.

Plein Air Competition. Local artists are invited to compete in a Plein Air Competition with Registration starting at 10 AM and judging at 3 PM. Prizes awarded as follows: 1st prize $200, 2nd prize $150 and 3rd prize $100.

**Painted Barrels:** Each museum will decorate a rain barrel for a drawing, as well as the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation. Participants will purchase their tickets from a roving volunteer and deposit tickets with their name and address in the vase at each Museum’s table. Winners will be drawn during the show by the MC.

**Garden Tours, Demonstrations, Vendors, Refreshments**

For more information, Phone: 727-582-2247
We're Tweeting Up a Storm

To see what our followers are saying, click on the Twitter icon and follow a couple of simple steps. It's fun, and a great way to keep up with FBG news between Green Leafs.

Maybe we can even get a botanical conversation going. Share gardening tips. Ask gardening questions. Tell us how wonderful the Gardens are looking. (All "attaboys" gratefully accepted.)

And Share Your Gorgeous Garden Photos

When you visit the Gardens and take fabulous photos of our trees, flowers, herbs, tropical fruits, butterflies, birds, and maybe even an alligator, please share them on our Facebook page. We’re getting more and more fans all the time. If you haven't signed up, it’s easy to do. Use the link above and click on the connect symbol. Become a fan today so that you can view visitor photos and comments. You can also share your experience at the gardens on the “Wall.”

Thanks to our Facebook friends

Extension is on Facebook!!
Special Announcements

RSVP
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

This is your very special "Invitation" to...

Become a Supporting
"Friend of RSVP"

The purpose of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program is to address the most serious needs of people by mobilizing the skills, experience, and commitment of volunteers — age 55 and above — and placing them with not-for-profit agencies and public assistance programs that are on the cutting edge of tackling the community’s most pressing problems!

Currently, RSVP has nearly 1,100 senior volunteers assisting in 110 different agencies and programs. Last year, these volunteers gave more than 222,000 hours in volunteer service, equating to more than $4.3 million in donated service to these groups and organizations!

Although partially funded by the federal government, RSVP must raise 30% of its total operating income from the local community it serves. The majority of operating funds received go to reimbursing volunteers for mileage and meal expenditures while they are “on the job!” Unfortunately, RSVP has seriously felt the affects of the recent economic downturn — local fundraising is down significantly over last year — and the program’s ability to financially assist its volunteers and to effectively administer the program is currently in jeopardy.

By becoming a supporting "Friend of RSVP", your gift will ensure that every senior that desires to give back and serve the community will have the opportunity and the financial ability to do so, and that the many people-helping agencies and programs throughout Pinellas County will continue to have the volunteer assistance needed to effectively meet the needs of the many families and individuals who are currently hurting right here in our own communities!

Yes, I want to become a supporting "Friend of RSVP". Enclosed please find my gift of:

☐ $500.00 ☐ $250.00 ☐ $150.00 ☐ $100.00 ☐ $50.00 ☐ $_____

Please make checks payable to: Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc./RSVP and mail to:
Gregg E. Rose, Director, Retired & Senior Volunteer Program,
501 First Avenue North, Suite 517, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________
Number Street Apt./Unit Number
City: __________________________ State: ____________ Zip: ____________

Phone: ( )__________________________ E-Mail Address: __________________________

Thank you, so much, for becoming a “Friend of RSVP”!

Your gift is deductible: The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program is a service offering of Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc. (POC), a charitable organization in accordance with section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. One hundred percent of contributions received are used to support the RSVP program. POC is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Bureau of Charitable Activities; Registration number 59-5960695. POC is registered with the National Registry of Charitable Organizations, Section 501(c)(3) organizations. POC is a member of the Alliance of suitcase agencies and a certificant of the Alliance of suitcase agencies. POC Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. Florida state registration number is: CH22402.
Special Announcements Continued

FREE Food Growers Classes!

Want to grow your own fruit and vegetables? Walk out into your yard and graze? Eat what you’ve grown yourself? Meet with other home gardeners and Pinellas County Master Gardeners to share tips and how-tos?

Come visit our informal food growers club. No reservation necessary

Meetings are held
Mondays, 7 pm

Suncoast Mission of Rest
5625 Park Blvd
Pinellas Park, FL 33781
(Entrance in the back)

For information, call 727 391-9590 or 727 420-6184

Volunteer Incentive Limitations: One (1) annual permit per individual volunteer for one hundred (100) documented volunteer hours contributed in the Department of Parks and Conservation Resources during the fiscal year of October 1 to September 30. Family members may not combine hours to qualify. Additional permits may be purchased.

Hibiscus lovers might want to check out the Hibiscus Show on May 26. Free admission! For more info: http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/3367802/308720934/name/2013%20Big%20Flyer%20Rev%

Garden Maintenance volunteer opportunities are now available on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. The current teams work throughout the FBG. Duties include mulching, weeding, trimming, and adding new plants to the landscape. This is a great opportunity to learn while doing. If you are interested, contact Terry Berube at tberube@tampabay.rr.com or 727-501-3787.
BIG Plant Sale  Sunday, May 19, 2013
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Free Admission!

Rare Plant Network Sale
On the grounds of The Garden Club of St. Petersburg
500 Sunset Drive South (Park Street 5 blocks S. of Central)

- Bird & Butterfly Attractor Plants
- Cactus & Succulents
- Exotic Plants & Rare Tropicals
- Gardening Books/Magazines
- Garden Related Items
- Herbs & Spices
- Large Variety of indoor/outdoor Plants

Bring Your Wagons  Cash Sales Only

Plant Clinics Featuring: Air Layering, Bromeliads & Plumeria Grafting
**Education**

**MG Update**—MG Update, May 8, 9 am-noon, Brooker Creek Preserve Ecology presented by Natural Resources Extension Agent Lara Miller

*NOTE:* This meeting will be held at Brooker Creek Preserve in Tarpon Springs. Website: [http://www.brookercreepreserv.org](http://www.brookercreepreserv.org)/

*Directions from Pinellas County:* Go north on US 19 to Tarpon Avenue E. (CR 582), turn east (right). Pass through the traffic signal at East Lake Road (CR 611) and continue for approximately 2.5 miles to Environmental Education Center entrance. Follow the one-mile drive to the center. Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center, 3940 Keystone Road 727-453-6800

**Exotic Species Day**—May 11, 9 am to 1:00 pm

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center. Join environmental scientist, Cynthia Grizzle, and natural resource manager Brian Pavlina as they discuss plant and animal species that have invaded the Tampa Bay area. There will be live animals and plants on display. Following the in-class session, there will be an optional physical removal of invasive exotic plants around the Education Center buildings. If you would like to participate, please bring your garden gloves and whatever else to make your life more comfortable outside (hat, bug spray, water, etc.). *Event is free*—to register: [http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5683778334/eorg#](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5683778334/eorg#)

**Education Credits**—Extension classes:

Please register at: [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml)

MGs can earn up to four continuing education credits. Modules at: [http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/outreach/plant_id/index.shtml](http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/outreach/plant_id/index.shtml)

One CEU can be earned by studying the plants and earning a passing score of 80% on the “Test Yourself” feature. Once a score of 80% has been reached, print the page and submit it to the volunteer office.

**Palm Harbor Library MG Class Series**—Free classes every second Thursday of the month from 2:00-3:30 PM and 6:15-7:45 pm at the Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Ave. To register [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/)

*click the “Registration” tab and then click “Extension Service.”*

**St Petersburg MG Spearker Series**—now being held at the Garden Club of St. Petersburg. (It was formerly held at the library). The address for the Garden Club of St. Petersburg is:

500 Sunset Dr S, St Petersburg, FL 33707 [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/).

Click the “Registration” tab and then click “Extension Service.”

**“Planting Pinellas”** visit blog [http://plantingpinellas.blogspot.com/](http://plantingpinellas.blogspot.com/)

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**Volunteer Opportunities and Announcements**

**Record Your Volunteer Hours**

**Please Remember to Sign Out!**

The computer program for logging volunteer hours is next to the help desk. Make this your first stop and last stop. You must *sign in and sign out* when you are at Extension. When the computer is not functioning you can still log your time in the book. Those who volunteer at other facilities should e-mail hours after each visit.

When not at Extension, please [e-mail your hours to: cseaffidi@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:cseaffidi@co.pinellas.fl.us)

Direct questions to volunteer coordinator Chuck Scaffidi or assistant Emma Eshbaugh.

The County VSP system and procedures applies only to non-MG volunteers.

**Extension Classes and Tours**—Visit Lawn & Garden - Pinellas County Extension on-line calendar for a list of classes where most are being offered free or at a discount to MGs, volunteers and FBGF members with a membership card. Also, sign up for a garden tour.

Register on-line. [http://pce-lawnandgarden.eventbrite.com](http://pce-lawnandgarden.eventbrite.com)

Special discount offer for [Rain Harvesting Workshop](http://pce-lawnandgarden.eventbrite.com)

**Help Desk**—Please look at the VMS help desk calendar and see if there is a time that works for you. If you are a regular at the help desk please be sure you are signing up to avoid scheduling confusion.

**MGs needed**—MG Sally Ervin is looking for help at Lowes: MGs that would like to volunteer at the Clearwater Lowe's outreach Extension table on Saturdays anytime from 10-2 (can be 1 hr to 4 hrs) should e-mail Sally at servin307@hotmail.com. Lowe's is located on Gulf to Bay near US19.
Summer/hurricane season is just around the corner and that’s a good time to remind everyone about summer safety tips:

**It’s about to get very, very hot!** Please remember to wear proper attire, use sunblock, and stay hydrated! Remember these heat stress prevention tips:

- Know the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses, and monitor yourself and your coworkers.
- Block out direct sun or other heat sources.
- Use cooling fans and air-conditioning; rest regularly.
- Drink lots of water--about one cup every fifteen minutes.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks, and heavy meals.
- For more info on heat safety please visit the UF/IFAS website: [http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/agriculture/heat_stress.html](http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/agriculture/heat_stress.html)

You and your family and friends should **create or update your hurricane/disaster plan**. Don’t wait until a storm is upon us to decide what you will do in the event of a dangerous storm. For more info on hurricane preparedness please visit the UF/IFAS website: [http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/families_and_consumers/hurricane_prep_fc.html](http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/families_and_consumers/hurricane_prep_fc.html)

In the meantime, have fun, stay cool, and be safe!

Thank you so much for all that you do!

Theresa Badurek
727-582-2109
tbadurek@pinellascounty.org

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**Volunteer Opportunities and Announcements Continued**

- **McMullen Booth Elementary School** is hosting an Earth Day event on **Friday, May 3 from 8am-12pm**. There will be food and plenty of kids to talk to about plants, what Extension does, etc. Please let me know if you want to staff a table at this fun event!

- **Lakes and Ponds Day**–**May 4** need MG volunteers to help staff an FYN/Extension booth. If you are interested please email Theresa.

- **Community beautification project is being planned for Bartlett and Campbell Parks in St. Petersburg**. One of our own MG Trainees, Kristy Ferrell is helping design some new planting plans for these parks and we need a few MGs who want to get involved and help on planting days to show local residents how to plant and maintain their beautiful new landscape areas. MG Debra Black has now joined the team- but we need more! This project is the brainchild of community activist Coy LaSister of Assisted Living Community Gardens, Inc. Mr. LaSister envisions involving local residents in the care and maintenance of gardens to enhance their community while teaching them about gardening and horticulture. **This would be a wonderful hands-on way to impact an underserved community that really needs help!** Please let me know as soon as possible if you'd like to learn more as we would like to have a team meeting as soon as we can.

- **Compost demonstration area** at the Extension Office needs a new volunteer caretaker! Please let me know if you would like to help us with this important display. In the meantime please do not leave large debris in this area; instead use one of the two debris piles on the property.

- **Tampa Bay Home Show at Tropicana Field** need a MG volunteer for the **July 19, 20 & 21**. It typically starts about 10 am and runs until 6 pm. The greatest need for volunteers is on Sat., July 20. Please contact Sustainability Agent Ramona Madhosingh-Hector to volunteer: rmadhosinghhector@pinellascounty.org
Thanks to Local Nurseries, FBGF Members and MGs Can Save $$ When Beautifying Yards

One of the benefits of Foundation membership and being a certified Master Gardener is getting a 10 percent discount at many local nurseries. Just present your FBGF membership or MG card. We will continue to contact nurseries in the area to secure additional participants. Support our friends at:

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<th>Country Club Nursery</th>
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<tr>
<td>3611 Tyrone Blvd, St. Petersburg</td>
<td>9850 Starkey Road, Largo,</td>
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<td>727-345-6733</td>
<td>727-397-4438</td>
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<th>Earthscapes Garden Room</th>
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<td>730 Broadway, Dunedien</td>
<td>816 Alt. 19 N, Palm Harbor</td>
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<td>727-734-4900</td>
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<td>6001 Haines Road, St. Petersburg</td>
<td>Note:* (10% off all purchases)</td>
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<tr>
<td>727-742-8499</td>
<td>6260 Seminole Blvd, Seminole</td>
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<td>Hours: Tues thru Sat 10:00AM to 5:00PM</td>
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<th>Kathy’s Korner Nursery Inc. (10% off trees)</th>
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<td>6095 Haines Road North, St. Petersburg</td>
<td>6831 Central Ave., St. Petersburg</td>
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<td>727-525-9640</td>
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<td>450 Riviere Road, Palm Harbor</td>
<td>6230 102nd Ave. N, Pinellas Park</td>
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<td>727-545-9619</td>
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<td>2131 Central Ave., St. Petersburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>813-920-2153</td>
<td>727-822-5400</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Willow Tree Nursery</th>
<th>Wilcox Nursery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4401 49th St. N, St. Petersburg</td>
<td>12501 Indian Rocks Road, Largo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>727-522-2594</td>
<td>727-595-2073</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hazel’s Garden &amp; Nursery</th>
<th>Sunscape Plant &amp; Tree Nursery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5063 Dartmouth Ave, St. Petersburg</td>
<td>4730 CR 16 St. Petersburg, FL 33709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>727-321-4599</td>
<td>727-347-2915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:* Only FBG Foundation membership applies
• Horticultural Education  
• Volunteer Opportunities  
• Community Announcements

Thank You, Volunteers!!

2013 May Dates to Remember

- **May 3**–McMullen Booth Elementary School  Earth Day event from 8am-12pm
- **May 5**–Diggin’ The Arts-Sunday 10 am to 4 pm
- **May 11**– Exotic Species Day-, 9 am to 1:00 pm Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center
- **May 26**– Hibiscus Show

MG Plant Clinic at the Palm Harbor Library –Wednesdays from 10 AM to 2 PM
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:  [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml?cmd=opencal&cal=cal6](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml?cmd=opencal&cal=cal6)