Master Gardener Updates
"Fire of Hope" Aims to Solve World’s Problems with Permaculture

Editor’s note - Joanne was gracious enough to accept my arm twisting and complete the “Fire of Hope” series for those who missed the MG Updates on the important ecological concepts of permaculture and horticultural therapy. Matt Fahy, one of the speakers, contributed to the italicized portion of the article.

By JOANNE DRAKE, MG

Restorative gardening was the topic of our Oct. 8 Master Gardener Update. Our guest speaker was Matt Fahy, a member of Fire of Hope, the St. Petersburg organization that is dedicated to solving the world’s problems with permaculture practices and landscapes. Sound familiar? Last month’s speaker, Robert Segundo, a certified permaculturalist, presented a great program on Fire of Hope … see last month’s Green Leaf. Both Matt and Robert have edible gardens in their own yards and sometimes share plants with each other.

Matt spoke about the therapeutic benefits of gardening when it comes to helping those who are severely depressed over health, the economy, etc. He says he has been very successful in getting people interested in gardening and has actually gotten them outside to enjoy the fresh air, nature and socializing with others. They are getting exercise and feeling good again! Gardening has given them something to look forward to each day and helped them make friends with others with the same interest. Another plus: Harvesting fruits and vegetables has provided them with nutrition.

Gardening has restored hope for these people and Matt says he has seen huge steps in their progress. Gardening is a hobby that has everyone feeling good.

Matt spoke to the Master Gardeners about the healing benefits of gardening as horticultural therapy. This is the practice of using horticulture to holistically improve the life and well-being of an individual. His speech touched on the main benefits of gardening from a mental health perspective.

These include, but are not limited to, nutritional benefits, exercise and stress reduction. By touching on so many different areas of a person’s life, horticulture therapy truly is a holistic method for treating mental health disorders.

Matt lives in Largo and is currently working on a master’s degree in licensed mental health counseling. He hopes to use his degree to further the reach of horticulture therapy into our community. He has combined his passion to help people with a passion for sustainability. Together with Robert Segundo, a certified permaculturist, he has formed Fire of Hope, LLC.

Headquartered in St. Petersburg, Fire of Hope provides permaculture and urban sustainability education, training and services. Its goal is to provide viable, sustainable living to clients with the most up-to-date techniques, technologies and education. Their mission has been reinforced through the creation of training centers and urban homestead gardens. Using the permaculture method of sustainability, an integrated system of plants and appropriate technologies, they hope to give clients the necessary tools to living sustainably.

Permaculture is a whole system method of design that covers the aspects of community, government, education, finance and land tenure. With this, Fire of Hope believes a new type of community can take the place of current non-sustainable ones, and provide a long-lasting impact in a positive way to create resources and opportunities that will continue to grow exponentially over time.

For more information on Fire of Hope, visit www.fireofhope.org or e-mail Matt at: mattfahy74@yahoo.com.
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. 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 at (727) 582-2117.

Chuck Scaffidi
MG Editor

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

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

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**Pineapple … The Symbol of Hospitality**

By JOANNE DRAKE, MG

The pineapple, so sweet and delicious! As a symbol of hospitality it dates back to the 1700s. In Colonial America it was considered the warmest welcome a hostess could extend. The finest fruit was used as a centerpiece, then as dessert. Another sign of its popularity: Many furniture makers of the day incorporated the pineapple design into their work, for example as the carvings topping the posts of four poster beds.

The pineapple grows well in Pinellas County’s climate and our sandy, acidic soils with good drainage. The plant grows between 3 and 5 feet in height and equally wide. Its scientific name is *Ananas comosus* and it is in the Bromeliad family. It fruits between June and November… just in time for Thanksgiving!

One of our home gardens is dedicated to growing pineapples. It is easy and inexpensive. We save the discarded tops that usually get tossed and let them harden off a couple of days, as you would with geranium cuttings, before placing them in sandy soil. At first we water them two or three time a week, then let nature do the rest and only give an occasional watering. They may look like they won’t make it, but don’t give up. In about 10 to 12 months you’ll have ripe fruit. The fruit will be about half the size of the original but so juicy and delicious! Just remember to harvest before the raccoons start feasting on them.

**Pineapple upside-down cake** was usually served at Thanksgiving. Click here for one of my favorite recipes:


Or here for other recipes that are handy for covered dish gatherings or entertaining during the holidays. Enjoy!

[http://www.cooks.com/rec/view/0,196,153169-249205,00.html](http://www.cooks.com/rec/view/0,196,153169-249205,00.html)

For the easy-to-make pineapple centerpiece pictured below, go to: [http://www.thebeadlink.com/craftzone/centerpiece.html](http://www.thebeadlink.com/craftzone/centerpiece.html)
MASTER GARDENERS AT WORK

Visitors to the Gardens are encouraged to visit with and learn from our Master Gardeners as they work in the various Demonstration Areas. Teams are in the five gardens at the times shown on the map. Clip and save.

Please refer to the map for locations.

Days and times subject to weather and Master Gardener availability

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:30 am - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Shade/Green House (1)</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>8:00 am - 10:30 am</td>
<td>Tropical Fruit Garden (3)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9:00 am - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Native Plants / Parking Lot Pond (4)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Wildlife Demonstration Pond (5)</td>
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In the Demonstration Gardens, at left, Bill Miller of Clearwater with MG Terry Berube. Center, Terry, MG Richard Berube and volunteer Gary Trangas of St. Pete. Right, Gary with Janice Crawford of Palm Harbor.
Nature-Inspired Art Project Will Beautify Wedding Garden

By CHUCK SCAFFIDI, FBG Foundation Chair

By next spring, fish, frogs and lily pads will inhabit the four pools of the Wedding Garden fountains. In a sparkling glass incarnation rather than their living, breathing kin, of course. The design committee is already at work cutting, gluing and polishing the tiny pieces of glass that will eventually be a shimmering water mosaic in the now-dry and boarded up fountains.

Members of the mosaic committee to date are Heather Anderson, designer and project manager; Kathleen Bromley Rothman of The Stained Glass Studio of Clearwater, who is donating her talents; Diane Welter, Jan Stiffler, Jackie Lewan, Kara Ramdas, Ralph Burson, Terri Ziegler, Penny Offer and Sophia Amorginos. More volunteers are needed - nimble fingers not essential but will be a plus - for this ambitious and exciting project, so why not join in and invite your friends and neighbors.

You can also submit names for the installation and maybe win a $50 gift certificate from the Foundation’s Botanical Bounty Gift Shop. (Stop by to enter or volunteer or email us at flbgfoundation@gmail.com.)

Now that the glass has arrived, Kathleen is cutting out fish and lily-pads to be glued onto mosaic mesh. That will get underway soon at the nearby Ochs Homestead that belongs to the County and is used as a gardening/learning center for the 4-H. Patterns will be available for volunteers to start cutting and grinding.

Heather, who is a relatively new transplant to this area and also a new Foundation board member, has had amazing luck generating community support. In addition to finding and recruiting Kathleen Rothman, she has talked Ceramictec, a Tampa tile contractor, into donating design and installation labor; Laticrete International into donating the setting and grouting material for the project; and Unity Church of Palm Harbor into donating the rebuilding of the decking. The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation has donated money for materials.

The Wedding Garden, a popular site for local brides and grooms, was known for its beautiful water fountains until they were turned off a couple of years ago to save money and conserve water. The mosaic pools will be an environmentally friendly and artistic visitor attraction.

The Florida Botanical Gardens is grateful for all the support the community is giving, especially in these tough economic times. Participation is welcome.

The real thing, below. At right: This is what you'll see in the Wedding Garden when the new mosaic ponds are unveiled next spring. (Computer graphics by Chuck Scaffidi.)
Foundation Update

By CHUCK SCAFFIDI, FBG Foundation Chair

November begins a long-awaited month for getting the gardens ready to support the beginning of the holiday season. What has the Foundation been doing to get ready? Our board members and advisers have been very busy, in cooperation with the County Communications Department, Extension and Parks: advertising for the Holiday Lights was accomplished for the news media, a billboard created (see below center), flyers of all types have been printed, cable videos have been produced, and the lights team has worked hard to meet our deadlines. Yes, the lights contractor is on board doing the meticulous job of stringing LED lights and mounting displays throughout about six acres of the gardens. Bigger and brighter is no exaggeration. This year’s event should thrill and awe the public (I can feel the excitement). Also, I can’t leave out our MGs and volunteers who have worked tirelessly, and in the summer heat, to maintain the many Florida Botanical Garden areas.

To express the Foundation’s gratitude for all the commitment — and to show off for our County partners—we are planning a gala preview of the Holiday Lights and our FBG ten-year anniversary from 7 to 9 p.m. Nov. 23 in the Wedding Garden. Orange Blossom Catering and Total Wine is contributing to this celebration. Invitations (see below) should have arrived by now and my worst fear is that we missed someone. If you are a Master Gardener, FBG member, volunteer or county employee who did not get your invitation, please see or call me. And, yes, spouses and “one-extras are welcome. Our big Gift and Plant sale is Dec. 12 (see ad below), so put that on your calendar as well as the nightly lights from Nov. 26 through Jan. 2.

With the reduced Horticulture staff, maintaining the gardens has become more challenging. We continue to recruit volunteers and are fortunate that several have recently joined our ranks. However, we are always looking for others to provide the help we need in keeping the gardens alive and vibrant and for becoming an integral part of the Foundation projects.

Volunteer teams continue to purchase and work diligently to replace plants funded by the foundation. The Parks Department, as a partner with the Foundation, has been doing a great job contributing to this effort. Extension agent Theresa Badurek, who is also a Foundation advisor, and I have been discussing ways to provide Master Gardener support to build the synergy between Extension and the Foundation.

As pointed out in this newsletter, and in our County-approved work plan, we have many projects planned and funded, including adding art to the formal gardens, a new Children’s Trail station designed to educate children about water conservation, planning and implementing the landscape around the new Pinellas County Green Home, and many more exciting endeavors.

I remain optimistic that we can financially support the Florida Botanical Gardens as well as developing new ideas that we can bring to the FBGF board for approval.

Join us and be proud to be part of this wonderful volunteer group.
Holiday Lights in the Gardens

If you’ve visited the Gardens recently, you’ve probably noticed holiday lights magically appearing in the palm trees and along the paths. Maybe you’ve wondered why the decorations are showing up before Halloween. Holiday Lights in the Gardens are still weeks away – mark your calendar for the opening night lighting ceremony on Nov. 26 – but the design for this year is so extravagant it is going to take weeks for our lighting contractors to get the job done. When volunteers finally flip the switch, it’s guaranteed your socks will be totally knocked off!

Our lighting experts, Luminous Decor of Miami, come with long experience and a long list of superlatives, including having a residence they decorated in Miami win the Today Show’s first Holiday Lights Across America contest and getting raves from Al Roker, plus being written up in Newsweek, USA Today and the Miami Herald among other media outlets.

The Holiday Lights in the Gardens will bring lights, entertainment and family fun to Pinellas County, with a special celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the Florida Botanical Gardens. The event is sponsored by The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation.

During opening weekend, the main holiday tree located in the Wedding Garden will be circled by a train display, courtesy of the Tampa Division of the Florida Garden Railway Society.

Holiday Lights in the Gardens will be open from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. every evening through Sunday, Jan. 2.

A variety of entertainers will volunteer their time to share their talents. Performances will include keyboards, trios, premiere dance troupes, ballet, Middle Eastern dance, accordion players, church choirs and even the 4-H Ballroom Bicycle Brigade.

Of course, what would a holiday event be without Santa Claus? The jolly ol’ elf plans several visits throughout the season.

Holiday Lights in the Gardens transforms the Florida Botanical Gardens into a holiday wonderland with more than 425,000 twinkling lights, which are environmentally friendly LED lights. Free, family-friendly entertainment and music are planned. Vendors will also be on hand selling a variety of gifts and goods, and refreshments will be sold. The Foundation’s Botanical Bounty Gift Shop will also be open each night. This celebration is free to children under 12, and a donation of $2 per adult is suggested. Donations from last year’s event made this year’s event possible.
Celebrating 10 Years of Glow and Growth

“The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation is thrilled to be able to share the holiday spirit in such a special way,” said Chuck Scaffidi, chair of the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation, who is coordinating the event with co-chair Vivian Haicken. “This year is extra special because it marks the tenth anniversary of the Gardens. We invite the community to come join us in our seasonal celebration.”

This year’s highlights include:

**Gift and Plant Sale**
Sunday, Dec. 12
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The day-long special event in the formal gardens will feature more than 35 vendors selling an assortment of plants, including orchids, hibiscus, iris, bromeliads, native plants, herbs and citrus, and a variety of items perfect for gift giving, including unique clothing, outdoor items, select food items, crafts, jewelry, candies and more. The Botanical Bounty Gift shop will also be offering its beautiful merchandise. Free entry for visitors during the daylight hours.

**Dog Parade**
Sunday, Dec. 26

Registration for the parade will be from 2 to 2:45 p.m. and the parade will begin promptly at 3 p.m. Prizes will be awarded in several categories, including Best Dressed, Largest, Smallest, and Best Ability to Understand the Owner is Boss. Registration will be $10 per dog.

The Florida Botanical Gardens is located at 12520 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Free parking is available in lots next to the Gardens, Heritage Village, Pinellas County Extension and at Public Safety Services. The entrances to the Gardens will be open at these parking locations, as well as the east entrance at 12211 Walsingham Road. For more information or to volunteer, visit www.flbg.org or call (727) 582-2247.

The Florida Botanical Gardens include formal gardens, scenic landscapes and natural habitats that unfold across 150 acres in the heart of Pinellas County. More than 25 gardens and demonstration areas showcase flora, fauna and natural resources to delight nature enthusiasts. The gardens offer tropical plants, roses, fruits, herbs, hibiscus, bromeliads and more.

The Botanical Bounty Gift Shop, located in the welcome center, sells souvenirs and gifts with a horticultural flair. The store is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gardens are open every day from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. No admission fee.
Foundation's Facebook Finding Friends

All of a sudden photographers from all over are discovering the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation Facebook page and “giving it their best shots.” Many are generating their own fans.

One recent posting is by Matt Clark who wrote, “I just found you. If you don’t mind I would like to share a Texas Star Hibiscus. (Below left.) We don’t mind, Matt. We’re thrilled to have such great new friends.

Julie de Leseleuc shares many of her favorites, including the gorgeous purple pickerel weed being visited by a swallowtail.

Closer to home, a fan shared an image of the Garden’s latest addition - a butterfly bench that provides a perfect resting spot in the Wedding Garden Plaza.

If you haven't signed up, it’s easy to do. Use the link below and click on the green signup button at the top of the page. Become a fan today so that you can view visitor photos and comments. If you have photos of the gardens you would like to share on our Facebook page, we’d love to have them. You can also share your experience at the gardens on the “Wall.”

Become a fan, check out all the wonderful photos, and invite your friends to become fans as well! **Link to the FBG Facebook**

Heritage Village Jubilee

The Botanical Gardens’ next-door-neighbor drew thousands to its Oct. 23 Jubilee for a day of music, eating, flea marketing and visiting the late 1800s Florida homes and buildings, including the popular general store. The Foundation contributed many of the flea market items, here a tea towel shown by MG and Heritage Village volunteer Mary Chernesky (seated).
Cool Weather Ideas & Holiday Hours
by STACEY ZIDI, Gift Shop Manager

We will be open each night during Holiday Lights from 5:30-9:30 p.m. (weather permitting). Please support us as you shop for your holiday gifts!

Now that the weather is simply delightful, you’ll be out in the garden, planting, weeding and mulching. How about an outdoor party since the yard and pool look so great?

Recycle old pitchers, jugs, vases and bottles by filling them with nature-themed arrangements, including large, tropical single-stemmed leaves (split-leaf philodendron) and other foliage from your yard. Use flowering and fruiting branches as well as ferns for a casual, elegant look. Rosemary bunches on the table look and smell great – pop some on your grill’s coals to give a savory, smoky flavor to meats and vegetables.

How about an outdoor brunch? Fix an egg, cheese and herb strata and some fresh fruits and small pastries. Keep it casual for some relaxed weekend fun! Or you could organize a small “sunset party” and give everyone a disposable camera to see who can capture the best sunset photo. Lots of ice to keep your beverages cool, some small munchies in pre-portioned packs – so easy.

Cut some paper butterflies (4”-6” wide) out of old gift wrap, origami paper, old wallpaper leftovers (my all-time favorite for gift wrapping), or old greeting cards. If you cut two small slits in the center of the butterfly, you can hang them on drinking straws to keep beverages festive!

Come see me in the gift shop for help with ideas for your next get-together!

Par-tay!

Friday volunteer Lana Flickinger has lots of new merchandise to sell in the Botanical Bounty Gift Shop. Profits support the Gardens.
Master Gardener’s New Book On Sale Now in Gift Shop


The CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW and ENGLISH GARDENS

Next May 21—28

If you’ve always yearned to visit some of England’s grandest gardens in the springtime, the Travel Unlimited agency is offering a week-long tour for $2799 that includes a day at the Chelsea Flower Show, one of the world’s pre-eminent horticultural events; a day at the award-winning Borde Hill Gardens on the grounds of a 16th century Tudor mansion in the Sussex High Weald; afternoon high tea at a private estate; and a $50 American Express gift card for Florida Botanical Gardens Master Gardeners, FBG Foundation members and volunteers. For more information, call the travel agency at 800-645-6969. FBGF will receive a percentage that will benefit our Gardens.

Join Foundation President Chuck Scaffidi and his wife Joan on this garden lover’s dream trip. He has brochures in the volunteer office if you want to learn more.
**An Exciting Water World for Children**

The Foundation is excited to get started on a new Children’s Trail station that will be part of the eco-friendly Pinellas Green Home that will open sometime in 2013, if things go as planned. The focus will be on water conservation education for children. In addition to having a representative on the County’s green home planning committee, the Foundation will financially support this effort. Directed donations are always welcome.

Volunteers are needed in the planning and implementation of both the landscape and the new Children’s Trail station. Contact MG Terri Ziegler, green home and sustainability committee chair, at tmsz@tampabay.rr.com to get involved in research, locating a site, helping with the construction, and designing educational signage.

Theresa Badurek will consider this project for entry in the UF/IFAS in the Master Gardener annual state award in 2011. This means documenting the project from inception to completion. Chuck Scaffidi can provide guidance for accomplishing this.

Pat Dieterich, chair of the Foundation’s Children’s Trail committee, will provide oversight and guidance for this project. E-mail her at pzd@tampabay.rr.com or Chuck at cascaffidi@juno.com or contact the volunteer office 582-2117. We are anxious to get started.

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**EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- MG CEU Credits
- Palm Harbor Class
- Clinic at Palm Harbor
- St. Pete Library Class
- Planting Pinellas Blog

Record Your Volunteer Hours
Please Remember to Sign Out!

The computer program for logging volunteer hours is outside the volunteer office, near 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. For those who volunteer at other facilities, e-mail your hours after your visit. With more than 200 volunteers at Extension, it becomes a considerable burden on the volunteer coordinators to manually enter your hours. When not at Extension, please e-mail your hours to: cscaffidi@co.pinellas.fl.us Direct questions to volunteer coordinator Chuck Scaffidi or assistant Emma Eshbaugh.

This system and procedures applies only to non-MG volunteers.

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**Extension Classes**

Visit Extension’s on-line calendar page for a list of classes that are being offered free to MGs, volunteers and FBGF members. (Must show membership card.) All others pay a nominal fee of $15. You can register on-line.

**Volunteer Hours for Master Gardeners**

The on-line Master Gardener VMS system is up and running and you can now check news updates, e-mail, and input your volunteer hours through an exclusive Pinellas County MG website. Personal e-mail addresses are required for access, so if you currently share one with a spouse or other MG, you’ll have to set up a free personal account.

We will all benefit from this new system and we will continue to everyone updated as we move forward. The system is web-based, secure and user-friendly - you can even jump on from your web-enabled cell-phone if you like. Go to https://florida.volunteersystem.org and click on the New User tab to get started.

For those who are unable to input hours, we will still provide a log book and a volunteer to input your hours.

Volunteers, other than MGs, will continue to use the same County VSP system and log book outside the volunteer office. Please adhere to the policy described in box at left.

The transition may take time to get use to, but we will do everything possible to ensure that your volunteer hours will not be lost.
**MG Update, Nov. 8**

The topic will be Citrus Care with emphasis on insect and disease ID and control. This is a must-hear speaker! Steve Futch, from the IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred, will share his knowledge and experience with us. **Don’t miss it!**

**Garden Tour**

We're still looking for a tour in December. Anyone willing to host, please call Phyl Lawson at 363-0067.

**Rainbow Village Community Garden**

This neighborhood, which is just across Ulmerton from the Botanical Gardens, is planning a community garden and needs a Master Gardener or two or three. This would be a great group to work with. They have plenty of space and kids who could really benefit from this kind of learning and community experience.

**Great American Teach-In**

Thursday, Nov. 18. Ridgecrest Elementary, one of the Gardens’ Largo neighbors, is inviting any and all Extension departments and volunteers to participate in their Great American Teach-In for kindergarten through fifth grade. Classes—speaker’s choice of age-appropriate topics—are 30 minutes with an average of 18 -22 students per class. Sign in is 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. with continental breakfast for participants. Lunch is also provided.

All classrooms have DVD players. The plan is to speakers to rotate from class to class, but specific time periods can be scheduled for anyone who can’t commit for the entire day. Grade level preference can also be accommodated.

Shore Acres Elementary and Tyrone Middle School would like to have MGs that day.

**URGENT!** We have scheduled a Nov. 10 demonstration on air-layering branches for the Belleair Garden Club but the MG who planned to give this demo cannot do it due to health concerns. Please help us fill this spot. The talk is for at 9 a.m.

Contact Theresa Badurek at 727-582-2109 or tbadurek@pinellascounty.org to follow up on any of these items.

**Education**

**Earn Continuing Education Credits**

Master Gardeners can earn continuing education credits by completing Plant ID Modules at [http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/outreach/plant_id/index.shtml](http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/outreach/plant_id/index.shtml)

MGs can earn one CEU per module 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. This is an option Master Gardeners can use for a maximum of four CEUs.

**Palm Harbor Library MG Class Series**

Classes are offered once a month on the second Thursday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. at the Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Avenue. To register, go to www.pinellascountystension.org, click on the “Online Class Registration” button and then the “Lawn & Garden” tab. You may also call (727) 582-2100. **There will be no classes in December.**

**Plant clinic at the Palm Harbor Library**

The clinic, which is normally open every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will be closed from the Wednesday before Thanksgiving until January.

**St Petersburg Community Library MG Class Series**

Classes offered free at the West St. Petersburg Community Library, 6605 5 Ave. N. To register, go to [www.pinellascountystension.org](http://www.pinellascountystension.org), click on the “Online Class Registration” button and then the “Lawn & Garden” tab. You may also call (727) 582-2100.

**New "Planting Pinellas" blog**

My Thoughts
By Theresa Badurek

Since we are fast approaching Thanksgiving, I would like to share with you this favorite recipe. I’m sure many of you know it well.

Recipe for a Successful Master Gardener Volunteer
First plant four rows of Peas
Presence
Promptness
Preparation
Perseverance

Next plant five rows of Lettuce
Let us obey the rules and regulations
Let us be true to our obligations
Let us be faithful to duty
Let us be loyal and unselfish
Let us love one another

Then, plant three rows of squash
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash criticism

Finally, No garden is complete without turnips
Turn up for meetings
Turn up with a smile
Turn up with a determination to make everything count for something good and make what we do worthwhile

-From the “How Does Your Gardener Grow” Master Gardener application packet.

This holiday season I am thankful for so many things, and you are all on that list.
You can reach me with suggestions and comments at 727-582-2109
tbadurek@pinellascounty.org

2010 November
Thank You, Volunteers!

Looking Ahead!

■ Monday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.
  Master Gardener Update
  Tips on citrus care from Steve Futch, IFAS Citrus Research
  and Education Center in Lake Alfred.

■ See you at Holiday Lights in the Gardens, Nov. 26-Jan. 2
  5:30-9 p.m. daily

■ Gift and Plant Sale
  Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

■ Dog Parade
  Dec. 26, 3 p.m.

MG Plant Clinic at the Palm Harbor Library –Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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://www.pinellascounty.org/scripts/publish/webevent.pl?