

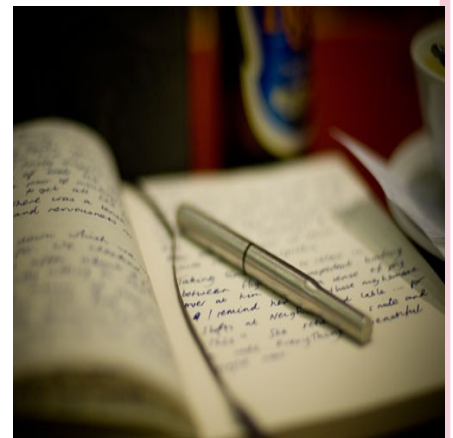


GARDEN JOURNAL:

It has been the goal of our club to reach out to the community with different opportunities to learn how to garden better and one way is to keep some sort of record on how your efforts do. So our next meeting we will have Emily Walton talk to us on how she keeps her journal. Emily lives on a historic property and has a nice garden which our club has toured. She is a former Hancock County commissioner and was a veterinarian here in Bluffton for many years. Needless to say Emily is not uncomfortable about speaking before people and will answer questions that are asked.

If there is enough time after Emily is through we will have Patrick Flinn talk and answer questions about how to start difficult seeds. It is usually easy to start seeds but there are a few varieties and some species that require special handling and treatment. If you have had trouble starting some of your seeds and want to find out what you can do to succeed in your efforts maybe he can help.

If you would like to come to the meeting please feel free to as this meeting is open to the public.



If we know what we did then we can either repeat success or avoid disaster.

2015 CALENDAR

The 2015 calendar for our club was what our February meeting was about. We worked hard to make it an interesting year and we hope you think we did okay. Here it is our calendar:

March 3rd, will be a presentation by Emily Walton on her garden journal. If there is enough time Patrick Flinn will talk about hard to start seeds.

April 7th, we hope to have a presentation on composting.

May 5th, will be a power point presentation on the local coop garden to be presented by Ray Person, they are not looking for new participants but this should be interesting.

June 2nd, we hope to tour Cindy Basinger's greenhouse.

July 7th, we will tour the coop garden.

August 4th, we hope to tour the Brauens' gourd operation.

September 1st, we hope to meet at Jeanie's kitchen.

October 6th, we hope to have a presentation on tool maintenance.

November 3rd, cold starting perennial seeds presented by Ann Brickner of Perennial Plant Peddler



HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW:

Should you look out at certain trees in your landscape you might see the predictors of the upcoming spring season. I have a giant pussy willow that is starting to pop open its' catkins. Even though there is snow covering almost everything outside life is still there. Soon we will see some songbirds flying through to get to their breeding areas.

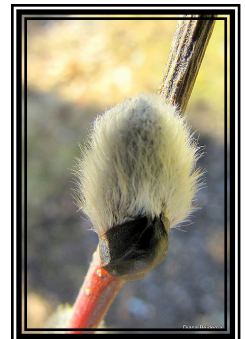
My hasn't this been an interesting winter as last year we are seeing the threat of record cold and so much snow in some parts of our country that most of us are ready for it to be over. But as with all things there is only one thing we can do about this weather is to wait it out.

But if you are ready for some gardening you can get a jump on it by starting something inside your home. All you need to do is bundle up and grab your pruners and go outside to that pussy willow, forsythia or even a flowering crabapple and cut some small year old branches and take them inside and put them in a vase and watch what happens. In a few days you should see the buds swell and then break open to reveal a beautiful flower or catkin. And that makes any dreary room so much better.

Now is the time to start some seeds but remember to read the package and only start the ones that say to start inside eight to ten weeks before last frost, that is usually May 10-15. Have fun.



Even though the snow is still there the plants will be ready when it's gone.



They are starting to pop so watch out spring is almost here

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you want to do something good look for something that needs attention and attend to it. Like if you are walking through your garden and you see a weed don't you reach down and pull it out? Sometimes I do and sometimes I don't. so this year I want to try to attend to what I see when I see it and I am not talking just gardening. If a person has a question on how to do something and I know how to do it I will try to help them accomplish it.

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