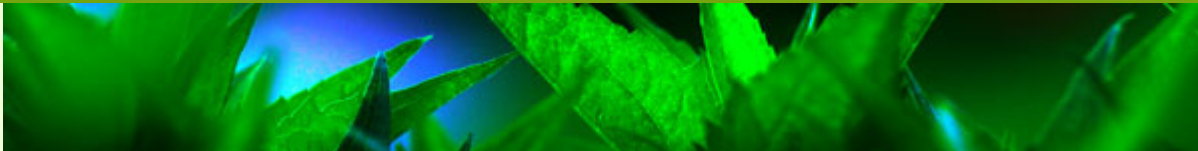


*Chp Meeting Thurs, April 16 at All Pro Landscaping!*

## Big Bend Chapter FNGLA News

*April 2009*



We hope to see you Thursday, April 16 for our next chapter meeting at [All Pro Landscaping](#) in Tallahassee. The meeting will be held at the equipment store location at 2800 Mahan Drive. We wish to thank Allstate for helping to sponsor our meeting. We look forward to another great turnout, great food and great networking.

### April Chapter Meeting

*All Pro Landscaping - Thursday, April 16 - 6 to 9 PM*

Come early and mingle with the equipment, marvel at the power, take a test drive. Robin Barber will provide a tour of the facilities at 6 PM and a brief presentation after dinner on selecting the right tools to save time, money, labor, energy.

Reggie Black of Allstate Insurance Company will provide a brief update on a new benefit for FNGLA members that offers group discounts on business auto and inland marine insurance. The information Reggie brings may result in significant savings for Big Bend members.



We'll also update you on legislative happenings. So, please join us for our meeting and dinner. RSVP before **April 14** by emailing [Shauna Winterbottom](#) or call her at 850-656-5939.



### Thank You!

A great big thanks to Oglesby Nurseries and Gary Hennen for donating plants to place on the desk of each legislator on opening day of the 2009 session. FNGLA was prominently displayed and clearly visible on the floor of the House and Senate. Thanks also to Susan Mertz of Tallahassee Nurseries for securing decorative containers and for receiving and caring for the plants in the TN greenhouses until they were delivered.

Special thanks go to Richard Phillips and Shelia Gmeiner for helping Gale Allbritton and Jim Spratt prepare and distribute plants on the eve before the session. This is just one of numerous activities that FNGLA and the Big Bend chapter do to make sure that our industry is well known and respected at the Capitol. It opens many doors to make sure our positions are heard.

### Scholarship Reminder

[FNGLA Student Scholarships](#)

Improving the professional image of the nursery and landscape industry is a priority of FNGLA. The best way to do that is by earning professional credentials. The Big Bend Chapter has been the **FIRST** to include eligibility for persons seeking certification



training and testing in our scholarship applications. Please have anyone interested in pursuing scholarship assistance contact [David Oglesby](#) or [Gale Allbritton](#) for more information.



## Spring Events

**April 18:** [Southern Bulb Field Day](#) - Sponsored by Gardening Friends of the Big Bend at the [NFREC](#). Pre-register by 5 PM April 15. Call 850-875-7100, e-mail [Jill Williams](#) or click [here](#) to register online.

**April 24:** [Arbor Day](#) - Join the Big Bend chapter celebrating Arbor Day. We are planning a tree planting event at 2 local schools. Trees will be donated by Mack Brothers and Total Landscape Supply. We are inviting local and state officials to join us. Stay tuned - we'd love to have you join us.

**May 14:** Floriculture Field Day - Sponsored by FNGLA's Floriculture Division. Click [here](#) for complete program information and registration.

**May 16:** Annual Student Scholarship Plant Sale - Once again, we solicit your support for this annual fund raising event. We need plant donations, coordinators for delivery to Tallahassee Nurseries and volunteers to man the sale. Contact [Sheila Gmeiner](#), [Gale Allbritton](#), [Steve McElroy](#), Richard Phillips or Steve Bos if you would like to be involved.



Spring has sprung and the rains are falling (maybe more than we want), and we are entering a new season of life. Come join your friends and colleagues for an evening of sharing, networking and lifting spirits. Don't forget - send your RSVP to [Shauna](#) early to enjoy another great chapter get together at All Pro Landscaping on Thursday, April 16! Hope to see you there!

**Sincerely,**

Gale Allbritton  
Big Bend Chapter FNGLA

