

Big Bend Chapter FNGLA News

May 2009



Dear Wayne,

I hope your spring sales have been busy and we all are beginning to see some flicker of light in a rebounding economy. In the Mexican spirit of celebration, ¡Viva el cinco de mayo!



Student Scholarship Plant Sale

Saturday, May 16 at Tallahassee Nurseries

We are seeking donations for our annual student scholarship plant sale coming soon. Your support for this event helps encourage students to obtain a degree or certification in horticulture or a related field and to enter the landscape or horticulture business.

In the past, we find our best sellers are color, followed by shrubs and trees - or anything that is a new or trendy plant. If you are not able to deliver your contributions to Tallahassee Nurseries, please deliver them to [Hackney Nursery](#) (850-442-6115) or [Total Landscape Supply](#) (850-997-5054) by **Wednesday afternoon, May 13**. These businesses will make sure your plants get to Tallahassee Nurseries by Thursday afternoon, May 14.

Finally, we NEED volunteers to help man the sale between 8 am and 6 pm on **Saturday, May 16** at [Tallahassee Nurseries](#). Call Sheila Gmeiner (850-539-5022) or Gale Allbritton (850-933-9545) to volunteer. You don't have to stay all day - it can be just for an hour or two - but come and join the fun! We need you to make this a success for the future of our industry!



Thank YOU!

Arbor Day Success



A huge thank you to Steve McElroy for donating a 30 gallon live oak for installation at Bond Elementary School in honor of Arbor Day. Thirty happy children shoveled soil to plant the tree. Thanks especially to Steven Bivins of [Mack Brothers Landscape Nursery](#) for helping to make sure the tree was planted properly, fertilized, mulched and watered.

Thanks to Halsey Beshears for donating a 7 gallon crape myrtle for the Capitol tree planting event where we were also joined by Governor Crist and a local Girl Scout Troop. Additionally we thank Reza Karimipour and Robert Alexander of Persica Nurseries, Sheila Gmeiner of Clinton Nurseries, and Gale Allbritton of Magnolia Grex & Associates for taking time to join Jim Spratt of FNGLA in conducting tree planting ceremonies at both the Capitol and Bond Elementary School to commemorate Arbor Day.

Crape Myrtle Field Day

June 27 at NFREC

Featuring Dr. Michael A. Dirr, a former Professor with the University of Georgia. Dr. Dirr's lifelong passion for horticulture has positively influenced a generation of students, gardeners, nurserymen, and professional horticulturists. His teaching, research, and writing have made an immeasurable impact on the Green Industry, not only in Georgia, but throughout the Nation.

Dr. Dirr's presentation will be, "The best of the old, new introductions, and future breeding strategies with crape myrtles and other woodies." Gardening Friends of the Big Bend will be accepting reservations at www.thegfbb.com the first of June. Please keep the date open and plan on attending!



Save the Date!

Our summer chapter meeting will be **Thursday, June 18th** at [Hackney Nursery](#) in Greensboro. George and his staff will provide tours of the nursery at 5 pm.

Our meeting and dinner will occur between 6 and 8 pm. We're expecting a special guest. So, plan now to join us!

Look for more information in next month's newsletter.



Don't forget to gather those donations and give us a call to support the Student Scholarship Plant Sale at [Tallahassee Nurseries](#) on May 16!

Sincerely,

Gale Allbritton
Big Bend Chapter FNGLA

