

Tropical Short Course 2019 Speaker Program

“Tropical Journey”

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

“Biology and Ecology of Mangroves “

Janice Duquesnel, biologist with the District 5 Administration Office of the Florida Park Service, will give an overview of the mangrove ecosystem and its functionality. She will also talk about the three species of native mangroves and the characteristics that define each species.

“Planting for Honeybees, and other Pollinators, in South Florida”

Jennifer Holmes, owner of Hani Honey Company, will tell us that there is something blooming all year long in South Florida, and that the honey bee and pollinators are there. The listener will enjoy a discussion about the many plants, both edible, fruiting, flowering and everything in between that attract them. We hope to enjoy a taste of honey during free time.

“Community & Canopy”

Mark Cassini is the Co-founder and Co-Director of Community Greening, an urban forestry non-profit along with Matt Shipley who is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of Community Greening, an urban forestry non-profit. Mark and Matt will speak to us about creating and maintaining green spaces, cleaning up litter, developing a canopy of trees planted for shade and educating the public.

“Creative Designs with Seasonal Accents”

A fun-filled program will be presented by FFGC Fun with Flowers Chairman, Emilie Palmieri. She will give step-by-step creative design instructions to teach attendees new ideas and skills for the home for seasonal accents, entertaining and special occasion decorating.

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Thursday, January 24, 2019

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

“Mangoes in South Florida”

Alex Salazar of Tropical Acres Farms is a Commercial Mango grower since 2011 and will present information on modern mango horticultural care, varieties and flavor.

“Why Hummingbirds Hum”

Barbara Jacobson, FFGC Birds and Butterflies Chairman and former District VIII Director, will present amazing facts about these fabulous and feisty tiny acrobats. Barbara will talk about their species, anatomy, metabolism, migration and nesting diet. We will learn about some of the favorite plants that attract hummingbirds to your yard.

“Beat the Heat with Indoor Plants”

Laura Perdomo, owner of The Peacock Cottage in Ocala, FL brings to us a unique and creative perspective to “common” houseplants. Laura will show us the amazing world of having fun exploring a variety of plants and interesting ways to display them. Think about this question “Have you made a miniature garden yet for your house? “

“The Marvelously Mundane”

Parke Finold, Flower Show School Judge and Instructor will present a journey on objects found around the house that can be used for design. Parke also serves on the FFGC Board of Directors, is Past President of Floralias II and VI and currently serves as Vice Chairman of District VIII Judges Council.