

Quarterly FSHS Newsletter

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In this issue:

- 2 Bylaws Committee Needs Volunteers NOW
- 2 New Social Media Coordinator
- 3 Website Beautification Project Complete
- 4 Call for Sponsors
- 4 Marketing Coordinator Still Needed
- 5 In-Service Training: Use of Plant Growth Regulators in the Florida Horticulture Industry
- 6 Get Social with FSHS
- 6 2021-2022 FSHS Board of Directors & Sectional Vice Presidents
- 6 FSHS Committee Chairs & Administrative Contacts

Dr. George Fitzpatrick appointed President

The Board of Directors of the Florida State Horticultural Society (FSHS) has appointed Dr. George Fitzpatrick to the office of President of the Society, to complete the unexpired term of former President Dr. Alan Chambers, who had resigned.

Dr. Fitzpatrick was born and raised in New Jersey, and received most of his formal education there. He was awarded the BA. and M.A. degrees by The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ and the Ph.D. by Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

He joined the faculty at the University of Florida in 1976 and remained there for more than 35 years, retiring in 2011. At the time of his retirement, he was assigned the academic rank of Professor Emeritus. During his time at the University of Florida, he also served as a visiting instructor at the University of the Virgin Islands and the Universidad de Costa Rica.

Dr. Fitzpatrick is a long- time member of the FSHS and has served the Society in several capacities, including the Student Best Paper Judging Committee, Nominations Committee, Local Arrangements Committee, Editorial Committee (Associate Editor of the Proceedings of the FSHS during 1986 -1992, Editor during 2000-2001, Co-Editor during 2015-2018), and he also



served on the Board of Directors, as Board Member at Large, 1992-1993.

In addition to his editorial work for the FSHS, he also served as a member of the Editorial Board for the journal Compost Science and Utilization for 18 years. Dr. Fitzpatrick has also served on several committees of the American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS), including the Collegiate Activities Committee, Horticultural Landmarks Selection Committee and the Certified Professional Horticulturist Committee. Dr. Fitzpatrick is the Editor of the Horticulturist's Certification Study Guide, published in 2013 by the American Society of Horticultural Science Press.

(Continued on page 2)

Bylaws Committee Needs Volunteers *NOW*

You may (or may not) be aware that FSHS has both bylaws (last amended and approved in 2019) and an Operations Guide for officers and committees.

In any case, with the change in operations management companies from ASHS to AMC Source, there has been some changes in the duties of various officers of the society.

It is important that our bylaws be modified to reflect those (and other) changes to how the society operates. In addition, there are some important updates and changes needed for the Operations Guide.

Dr. Jeff Brecht, who chaired the committee that submitted the last bylaws modifications, has agreed to chair a committee to review and propose revisions to the bylaws and also to modify/update the Operations Guide.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Dr. Brecht directly at <u>ikbrecht@ufl.edu</u>.

You may also be contacted to serve ...



New Social Media Coordinator



FSHS is pleased to announce that we have a new Social Media Coordinator — Caroline De Favari Tardivo!

Carol is a Ph.D. student doing research in the Plant Physiology Lab of the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee. Thanks to Dr. Albrecht for connecting us!

Carol will be taking care of the FSHS posts to the various FSHS Social Media

accounts including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Linked-In. Please follow FSHS on any of these platforms (see page 8). If you have any items you'd like to have posted on FSHS social media sites, please kindly send the information directly to Carol (caroline.defava@ufl.edu).

President...continued from page 1

Since his retirement in 2011, Dr. Fitzpatrick has served as the Senior Technical Advisor at the North-South Institute, and he has been a Volunteer Tax Advisor for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Aide Program at various sites in southern Florida, including Fort Lauderdale, North Miami, and Miami Springs. He was appointed by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners in 2022 to the Land Acquisition Selection Committee, advising the Commissioners on sites suitable for purchase under the Environmentally Endangered Lands program.

In his free time, Dr. Fitzpatrick enjoys playing golf, woodworking, natural fiber weaving and nature, botanical and horticultural photography (he has won first place honors on two occasions in the photography competition at ASHS Annual Conferences and has provided images for several covers of the Proceedings of the FSHS).

Website Beautification Project Complete

The Florida State Horticultural Society has a new website!

AMC Source, which now provides association management services for FSHS, recently completed the website beautification project.

In addition to having a fresh look, the site will

now also process payments for members and will remain current with updates as the company coordinates the annual conference.

Be sure to take a look, renew your membership, mark your calendars for this year's meeting, and submit a title for an abstract presentation! The 2023 meeting will be held June 11-13, at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort in Daytona Beach, Florida.

> Title deadline: February 20th

Abstract deadline: March 20th

https://www.fshs.org/



Call for Sponsors

How Can You Support the Florida State Horticultural Society?

Sponsors are needed to support students and awards that recognize scholarship and achievement. To learn more about becoming a sponsor, please contact:

Gene McAvoy, Chair FSHS Sponsorship Committee 1900 G Rd LaBelle, FL 33935 gmcavoy@ufl.edu 863-673- 5939

Annual Sponsorship Categories

Silver:	\$100
Gold:	\$500
Platinum:	\$1000
Diamond:	\$5000

Sponsors may receive numerous benefits, including: exhibit/display space at the poster session, complimentary meeting registration, and access to the online program, as well as acknowledgement and advertising space in the conference program bulletin, the conference proceedings and in each of the sections.

Marketing Coordinator Still Needed



Interested in helping your society flourish?

FSHS is currently searching for a Marketing Coordinator who can help promote the Society effectively.

Because this position has remained vacant for some time, the Board is willing to negotiate the "term of office" specified in the current "job" description found below. Please contact John Griffis if interested: jgriffis@fgcu.edu

MARKETING COORDINATOR

The Marketing Coordinator is elected for a five (5)-year term, with an option for a second term, and chairs the Publicity Committee. The Marketing Coordinator is responsible for helping to develop and implement the Society's marketing plan. Besides **developing a variety of methods to disseminate a sustained stream of information to members** and potential members about the society and the important services it provides, an important focus is to **identify groups and individuals that are not current members, but whose interests overlap with those of FSHS**, and to send targeted information and invitations to those people to become members. The Marketing Coordinator is also responsible for obtaining photographs and other material/ information that can be used to showcase the society.

The marketing coordinator will work with the Social Media Coordinator to promote the society through the existing FSHS social media accounts, as well as work with our website operations to ensure that the required marketing information, such as conference dates and notices, is current on the website.

Use of Plant Growth Regulators in the Florida Horticulture Industry

136th Annual Meeting of FSHS

In-Service Training June 13, 2023 1:00 pm

Plant growth regulators (PGRs) are substances that can be applied to influence various physiological processes in plants. PGRs can be used to manipulate flowering, vegetative growth, fruit development, and quality. The use of PGRs is a common practice in the agriculture industry. PGRs are extensively used in the horticultural industry as they are an additional tool available to growers to manipulate tree/plant physiology for better results. An IST on PGR use in the horticulture industry will help in advancing the knowledge of UF county extension faculty in assisting horticultural crop stakeholders in improving their production.

Title / Topic:	Presenter:
What are PGRs?	Craig Campbell, Valent
Use of PGRs in Vegetable Production	Dr. Shinsuke Agehara
Use of PGRs in Blueberry Production	Dr. Jeffery Willamson and Dr. Gerardo Nunez
Use of Auxins and Brassinosteroid in Citrus to Improve Fruit Growth and Development	Dr. Fernando Alferez
Rejuvenating HLB-affected trees with use of PGRs	Dr. Tripti Vashisth

*CEUs for Restricted Pesticide Use and CCA will be offered. The Extension Dean's office will also be providing some funding to cover the cost of travel and materials for a limited number of participants.



Get Social with FSHS

Don't forget to tag **@fshs_hort** to increase visibility of your work and our organization.





FSHS Board of Directors

Board Chair: John Griffis President: George Fitzpatrick President Elect: Ute Albrecht Secretary: Fernando Alferez Treasurer: Kevin Athearn Board Member-at-Large: Craig Campbell Board Member-at-Large: Richard Campbell



FSHS Sectional Vice Presidents

Citrus: Vice President: Lorenzo Rossi VP Elect: John Chater

Ornamentals, Garden & Landscape: Vice President: Ashley Kush VP Elect: David Austin

Handling & Processing: Vice-President: Angelos Deltsidis

VP Elect: Adrian Berry

Krome Memorial: Vice President: Kimberly Morgan VP Elect: Muhammad Adnan Shahid

Vegetables: Vice President: Lisa Hickey VP Elect: Alejandro Bolques

Agroecology/Natural Resources: Vice President: Bonnie Wells VP Elect: Leslie Nicole Munroe

FSHS Committee Chairs & Administrative Contacts

Program Coordinator: German Sandoya Miranda
Proceedings Editor: Mary Lamberts
Marketing Coordinator: John Griffis
Member Coordinator: Ali Sarkhosh
Member Coordinator: Davie Kadyampakeni

Sponsorship Coordinator: Gene McAvoy Newsletter Editor: Alicia Lamborn Student Competition Coordinator: Xin Zhao Poster Coordinator: Vania Maria Pereira