



Evergreen Garden Club

The Wild Iris

Volume 17, Issue 2

October 2004

A Word from the President...

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EGC 2004-2005 Board Members

President:

Tricia Scott

Vice Presidents:

Karla Briggs

Beth Feldkamp

Secretary:

Joan Reynolds

Treasurer:

Lori Lapp

The **Wild Iris** is a free monthly publication for members of the Evergreen Garden Club.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month from Sept. to June at Church of the Hills, Buffalo Park Rd, Evergreen at 9:15 am. All are welcome.

For **membership** information please contact Lori Lapp at 303-838-8360 or membership@evergreengardenclub.org

Newsletter Contributions are due by the 20th of each month to Kathi Grider at 303-670-6909 or wegriders@speedtrail.net

Newsletter Editor & Website

Melinda Stroupe
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Dear Members,
It was great seeing everyone who was able to make it for our first meeting. Karla did a beautiful PowerPoint presentation for all of us. Seeing some of our fellow club members' gardens and our club's public gardens looking so wonderful was uplifting.

We announced our gardens that have been selected for the 2005 Garden Tour. I have mailed out the conformation of selection to the chosen gardens along with the regrets to those who are not on the tour. Our members who got to see the garden selections were very excited with the eight that are in the tour.

We ask that everyone visit last month's newsletter and review this coming year's budget. We shall be voting it in at our October meeting. Also in October we will be doing a fall cleanup at the public gardens. We had a sign up sheet for each garden. If you did not get a chance to sign up I would suggest going to either the Dam Garden or to the Post Office Garden to help out.

If they look well handled, head over to the Library or Hiwan (I know Irma and her goddesses will have the Bergen Park Traffic Circle handled). I suggest getting to the gardens at 9a.m., then meeting back at Church of the Hills at 11 a.m. for lunch. We are having a pot luck lunch so we are asking all of you to bring some lunch food to share. I will be at Church of the Hills to receive the food if you need to drop it off early.

At next month's meeting I will ask you to decide and commit if you want to take a Rec Center bus to Fantasy Orchids for our November meeting. The cost is \$10 per person round trip. We have access to two buses that carry 14 people per bus. It enables us to really car pool and be able to purchase large orchids! I have to contact our Rec Center and commit a month in advance for this. Fantasy Orchids is putting on their special program "Growing Orchids in Colorado" for us. You are more than welcome to bring guests to this program. We are really lucky to have them put this program on for us. They usually only offer it on weekends, and the demand is high. *(Continued on pg.2)*

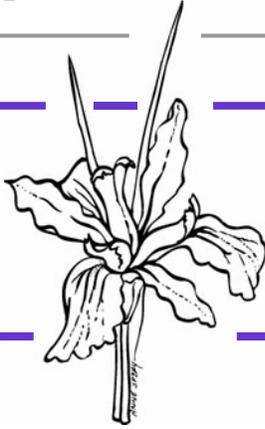
Membership Meeting - October 12, 2004

Fall Clean Up Workday in the Gardens

Help to put our gardens to bed for the winter. Work in one of the community

Gardens alongside the finest plant-loving people in town. Bring your work gloves, favorite gardening tools, water & maybe sunscreen. We will rally back at the Church of the

Hills for a pot-luck lunch.



Garden Club News

Welcome new members!!! Brenda Hatch - a neighbor of both Trish and Louise
Nickie Meinert - Karla's mom!!!

MY FAVORITE....by Priscilla Chapin

My favorite flower, now that's a tough question to answer. As a gardener obviously all flowers are favorites, why else do we spend our time and energy in growing them?

But if I have to name one it would be the Sweet Pea. It comes from my childhood memories of growing up just a few miles NE of where I now live on a dairy farm. The house was very small with a small patch of grass in the yard with a white picket fence around it to keep the dog, chickens, geese and pigs out of it. Along the fence Mom had Hollyhocks, Morning Glories and Sweet Peas covering it. When in bloom, the smell was intense, the colors numerous and the picked bouquets for the kitchen table would last for days. Being a farm wife, a mother of two, and my father's right hand she didn't have the time to garden much. I have a beautiful pea blooming right now called "Painted Lady" with its lovely magenta and lavender bloom, it rates very high on my list of "always plant." When I plant Sweet Peas I can see my Mom and the little house we called home.

Tip: I always plant my peas on St. Patrick's Day if weather permitting. Soak them overnight first in a weak tea, the tannic acid softens the shells. Plant 1" deep in sunny locations, where they have something to climb on. Keep soil moist where planted. Shoots are hardy and can take spring freezes pretty well.

My Favorite Shrub without question would have to be the Lilac. Since I have more than a few bushes, I must like them. The scent drifting into the bedroom windows in the dawning hours of the morning is beyond words. There is no other smell that can compare to a Lilac in bloom. The sight and smell of Lilacs brings back memories of my maternal grandmother and her lovely gardens and the Lilacs bushes she tended to and the big bouquet she would cut and put in the parlor, the perfume would drift throughout the house. She always wore Lilac Toilet Water so the smell of Lilacs was always a part of her.

(Continued from Pres. Message Pg.1)

I will be passing out our sign ups for food for the upcoming months. Please be sure to put your name down if you can provide some goodies for those meetings.

I recently talked to one our long-standing members about next year being our club's 40th year. It is huge benchmark for our club and we really need to do it right! I think a lot of suggestions and thought should be put into this. Ask yourselves how should we celebrate? We need to think of what to do this year, before our 40th is here. It is really impressive that our club has survived and thrived through 40 years. We truly need to honor that. Think on it!

Looking forward to seeing all of you in October!

Tricia

Minutes of the September 14th, 2004 Meeting

President Tricia Scott called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM. 31 members were present.

Tricia welcomed everyone back.

Karla Briggs announced that she had 'Buzzy Yummy Honey' from her abundant hives for sale in bear dispensers for \$3 each, with \$1 going to the World Gardening Fund.

Tricia announced that next month is the fall cleanup and had a sign up for which garden to work in as well as sign ups for bringing food to the year's meetings and food for the pot luck to follow next month's (Oct. 12) workday in our community gardens.

Tricia also explained that the November meeting is a field trip to Fantasy Orchids in Louisville. She has arranged for 2 Rec. Center Buses to take us. The cost is \$10 each. She further explained that Fantasy Orchids is quite warm and humid and encouraged everyone to dress in layers. They have agreed to put on a program that they normally only do on Saturdays, so members are encouraged to come and make it worth their while. Next month we will discuss further our lunch options.

Tricia then gave a quick run down of the programs for the upcoming year- noting that Beth and Karla had done a superior job lining up fun and interesting programs.

Treasurer Lori Lapp reported that last year's total for World Gardening was \$393.50. Kudos to Louise Mounsey for a fine job of exceeding all previous year's donations! Lori also reported that we have \$185.15 in checking and \$9654.44 in savings, with a net worth of \$9839.59.

Two new members were introduced and a third hopes to join us next month.

Secretary Joan Reynolds reviewed the correspondence we received throughout the summer. She read a thank you from Mark Heyvaert for our support of his wife Kathy in the Relay for Life and also commented how much she enjoyed being an artist in the garden at our tour prior to her death. Joan also reported that our Relay For Life team (Seeds of Hope) received first prize in tent decorations thanks to Julaine Kennedy's creative endeavors in the rain. Our tent even had rugs! We also were first place in team fundraising and Joan came in first as an individual fundraiser. Joan also reported that the garden club received a letter from the Evergreen Arts Council requesting that the club again decorate a tree for its Festival of Trees fundraiser. Joan committed to doing a tree and Julaine Kennedy volunteered to coordinate the decoration of a 2nd tree from the EGC. Trees can be picked up anytime in October for decorating at the Art Center and need to be brought back decorated by November 14. Contact Julaine if you wish to help with a group tree. Tricia then told us about the gardens that have been selected for the Garden Tour 2005. She thanked Jan Schoonveld for agreeing to be on the tour as well as Julaine Kennedy and Karla Briggs. The Tour Committee will be forming as the year progresses. Marilyn Kaussner reported that Anne Simpson (a fine local artist that has been an Artist in the Garden several times) has offered to donate a painting she did from the last tour for the cover art of the program.

Ken Ball (another fine artist!) announced that he had understood that many of the Wild Iris pins he made for us are coming apart - the pin backs had been attached with epoxy, and it wasn't holding. He asked anyone with a problem pin to give it to him and he would silver solder the pin back on.

The budget for 2004-2005 will be voted on next month. Members are asked to review it before then - the budget was printed in the September Wild Iris.

New brochures for the Library Garden were discussed. We seem to go through a lot of them and it's feared that they become trash. It was suggested that a laminated brochure be permanently attached to the kiosk, with a note to go inside to pick up an additional brochure.

The drawing for the door prizes was held.

A suggestion to move the Garden Tour up to June was made. Discussion followed with June 25 as a possible date that would not conflict with other 'happenings' in Evergreen. Garden owners will be contacted to see how they feel their gardens would look at an earlier date.

Nan Spence suggested that more seeds be brought in and shared at World Gardening.

(Continued on pg. 4)

(Continued from Minutes pg.5)

Louise Mounsey put in a request for any 'Louise's Poppies' seeds to be brought in. She originally shared them for years, but has now lost her own resources. She reinforced that members collect seeds to bring in.

Tricia announced that she had (literally) a truck full of pots in her truck outside to be purchased. The pots had come from Mount Evans hospice to give them more storage room. She and Peggy Fetchen-hier had picked them up and she had then had to move them 3-4 more times. She suggested that we give half of the funds collected back to hospice and half to World Gardening. The pots were in her truck and available for purchase following the program.

We the enjoyed refreshments, followed by an incredible Power Point presentation put on by Karla Briggs. The program even had music! The pictures of member's gardens and our community gardens were enjoyed by all. Linda Ringrose's outstanding photography of our community gardens was especially nice. Karla had earlier requested that we 'poke her eyes out' if she ever mentioned doing another Power Point presentation. After seeing this program, Karla will most likely need to solicit bodily harm from another source, as she did an outstanding job once again!

Following the meeting, Tricia 'hawked' pots from her truck. There are many, many left over which will be available at a garage sale at Tricia's September 25.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Reynolds, Secretary

Quotes

*Still - in a way - nobody sees a flower -really
- it is so small - we haven't the time - and to
see takes time, like to have a friend takes time.
~Georgia O'Keeffe*

*The leaves lay like hands upon the ground.
When the wind rustles them, they applaud
softly. ~Laura E. Stevens*

*Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to
it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth
seeking the successive autumns. ~George Eliot*



Over The Garden Fence *By Karla Briggs*

FALL COLOR

Now is the time to look at your garden with a critical eye for late summer and early fall color. First of all, is there any? Many times gardeners plant in the spring and have a tendency to plant what is or will be in bloom in the spring and summer seasons. This leaves the garden a little dreary in the later months. Colorado is often blessed with long Indian summers and it is a delight to have plants blooming up until the first killer frost.

Fall is a good time to plant, the soil is still warm and the nights are cool. Most hardy perennials will have enough time to settle in before winter. Remember to water the new plants well and provide a cozy blanket of mulch to help them get established. If you are running out of gardening time in August and September, take a few minutes to write down late blooming plants you would like to have in the garden and keep the information until spring.

Some of the plants blooming in my garden at the moment are Asters, Echinacea, Gaillardia, Bee Balm, Hollyhocks, Sunflowers, Day Lilies, and my favorite Sedums. All of these plants have held up pretty well with the frost, snow and hail we have had. They keep the bees busy and provide the Humming Birds with an energy boost as they hit the road for their southern migration. Depending on altitude, these plants will have similar bloom times in most of our gardens. My garden is at 7800 feet and on the north side of the mountain.

Other fall gardening chores are collecting seed (remember the World Gardening Table), amending the soil, thinning and dividing plants, watering if nature hasn't, and most importantly MULCHING. Mulching is a gardener's best insurance that next year's garden will survive the winter months. Mulch helps the soil retain moisture and keeps the plants from heaving up with our erratic freeze and thaw cycles. Cutting back the fall garden is a matter of preference: some gardeners like to leave the plant material as additional mulch and winter interest and some gardeners like a tidier looking winter garden and less work in the spring.

I am hoping for a snowy, wet winter. I am sure the plants hope for the same. Happy Gardening!
Karla

HORTICULTURE

One Step Ahead: Planting in the Fall – from High Country Gardens in Santa Fe, New Mexico – altitude ???? similar to our’s ?????

Though the weather is cooling rapidly this fall, there is still time to plant perennials, trees and shrubs. But why is fall an ideal time to plant? The following reasons outline the theory behind fall planting:

- * The air is cooler so plants don't need as much water. This time of year also makes it easier on humans, too. We can work longer hours outside.
- * There is less transplant shock because of the cooler air. With plants not needing to battle being taken from their former pot plus dealing with the hot sun, they seem to take to new locations much better in the fall.
- * The soil is warmer. When the air begins heating in the spring, the soil is still pretty cool. In the heart of summer, the soil can sometimes be a little too warm. But in the fall soil tends to be just right, which makes the roots happy thus letting them grow faster.
- * After the tops of plants have stopped active growth, all the energy of a plant returns to the roots. It's during the fall that roots get a chance to absorb all of the nutrients without needing to distribute them to the leaves and blooms.
- * Established plants have a better chance of making it through the heat of July and August.

You can continue planting through mid-October or until the first frost. This gives roots another two months to get all the goodies they can from the soil and establish themselves before the hard winter settles in.

If you plan ahead and plant now, come spring you'll be one step ahead of yourself with a garden all set to bloom.

Evergreen Garden Club
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Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events [www. botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org)

16th Annual Pumpkin Festival

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield presents a Pumpkin Festival each year for guests to trek through five acres of pumpkins in search of the perfect pumpkin. Plenty of great crafts and food will be for sale, and kids will enjoy barrel train rides, a climbing wall, educational activities, a working farm with animals and much more! And if the mood suits you, make it a full day of family fun and stop by the Corn Maze just next door for an additional fee!

Date:

Saturday October 9, 2004

Time:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission:

\$5 for Adults

\$3 for Children (4-15 years)

Free admission for Children 3 and under.

All children in costume admitted free.

NOTE: Tickets to the Corn Maze are SOLD SEPARATELY!

Price of pumpkins determined by size.