



# Evergreen Garden Club

## The Wild Iris Volume 18, Issue 14 November 2006

### *A Word from the President...*

Who said you can't go home again?

I am writing this month's President's Message while at my Mother's home in Allison Park, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh. I consider myself doubly blessed this year in that I was able to experience one of the most glorious golden autumns ever in Evergreen before heading back to visit the exquisite jewel box that Western Pennsylvania becomes in the fall.

The oaks have reached their peak here as have most of the northern hardwoods. Those which are still holding onto their greenery join the native pines in providing a lush emerald background for the multihued tapestry draped over the numerous ridges and ravines that make up these ancient Allegheny Mountains. This is a land of deep forest, rock and rivers. Ruggedly beautiful at any time of year, autumn here is nothing short of spectacular.

With my mother, I have taken numerous drives this past week. Some are on the same roads we traveled with my father and sisters when I was a child. Now my mom has passed ninety and I have passed fifty. But we still exude the same excitement as before; still catch our breath in awe of the season's splendor. We stop to taste

apple cider at a roadside stand and to buy pumpkins, gourds, pomegranates and Indian corn which we will later fashion into table top arrangements or set outside the front door. We would never neglect to stop for lunch in a "cute country" restaurant and perhaps stop again for a caramel apple or a piece of apple pie at our favorite pie shoppe. After all, "leaf peeping" consumes a lot of calories (or so we tell ourselves.)

Each year I thank my Mother for being my first and best teacher about both the natural world as well as the world of gardening. Each year, she tells me I what a good learner I was. We get a little sappy and share many favorite memories and moments of counting our blessings. But she is my mother, so she also criticizes my driving and tells me to keep my eyes on the road, even though she is continuously pointing out the all the scenery I must not miss as I navigate the narrow, winding roads. And, I, being a daughter, turn the radio on to a rock station I know she does not like. But these moments of mother/daughter discord do not last long.

*(Continued on pg.2)*

### *November 14, 2006 A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words*

Come and meet local photographic artist and Timberline Gallery owner David Smith. David specializes in Colorado wildflower and landscape photography, and will be sharing slides of his favorite works. Come and be inspired. David will also be giving us some basic tips and suggestions on how to photograph our own gardens and landscapes.

The meeting begins at 9:30 am at the Fire & Rescue Station on Bergen Parkway. Remember to bring your plants, cuttings, pots, etc. for the World Gardening Table...and your coffee mug. See you there!

*Garden Club meetings will be cancelled whenever Jefferson County Mountain Schools are cancelled because of inclement weather. This will eliminate any confusion and need for last minute communications about weather cancellations.*

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#### **EGC 2006-2007 Board Members Presidents:**

Nan Spence

#### **Vice Presidents:**

Chris Gray

Sheila Henriksen

#### **Secretary:**

Kim Stark

#### **Treasurer:**

Priscilla Chapin

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 Fire & Rescue Station on Bergen Parkway at 9:15 am. All are welcome.

For **membership** information please contact Priscilla Chapin at 303-697-4140 or Pris4430@aol.com

**Newsletter Contributions** are due by the 20th of each month to Karla Briggs at karla@tuppersteam.com

#### **Newsletter Editor & Website**

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Evergreengardenclub.org

# Garden Club News

**Welcome new members!!!! Lorna Chorn** I've been growing and arranging flowers since age 5 and joined my first garden club at age 10 in Emporia, Kansas. I was the only one in the club without gray, white or lavender(?) hair. I lived in Plano, TX for 25 years and became a Texas Master Gardener and learned to HATE Bermuda grass in my flower beds. I moved to Genesee 3 years ago and have been reading all I can about mountain gardening. I've taken several classes about native wildflowers thru the CO Mountain Club; high altitude horticulture thru the Denver Botanic Gardens; and am slowly working on my certificate in Botanical Illustration thru DBG. I work in the Garden Grown propagation group at DBG, propagating plants for the two annual sales there. This past spring I converted the fenced dog run at my house into a cutting garden and am determined- after lots of trial and error I'm sure - to have a fragrant, lovely variety of flowers for arrangements. Kathi Grider has inspired me to join EGC and I look forward to lots of good "dirt" talk!

**Paul Luzetski** I moved to CO from NY in 1989. Lived in Evergreen (Hiwan Hills) for nearly twelve yrs. Non-legally recognized "spouse" Doug Cornell (12 yrs). Former public middle school instructor - that was way back in NY - currently a Master's in Gerontology with a career in health and human services. Gardening interests vary. Most recently have increased use of containers and ornamental grasses in our home garden. Have tried a bit of container veggy gardening, in past. Would love to someday develop a small vegetable garden area and not have the results of a tomato harvest average about \$8 per tomato in cost!!



**November Food Hostesses:** Kathy Grider, Jeanne Weber, Marjorie Clinton, Eleanor Viergever, Sheila Henriksen, Ruth Alford, Liz Barrett

*(Continued from President's Message pg. 1)*

Very few years go by without a trip to the Laurel Mountains where Fallingwater built by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1935 is located. The woodland setting of this world famous structure is dominated largely by red and white oaks, tulip poplars, striped-bark maples, rhododendron, mountain laurel and witch-hazel. Fallingwater is perched on rocks over the cascading falls of Bear Run - an awe inspiring blending of nature and architecture. Then it's onward to Ohiopyle along the Youghiogheny River Gorge whitewater area where mile after mile of scenery is so breathtakingly beautiful it actually hurts to watch it slowly disappear in my rearview mirror as I turn to head back home.

The drive home on country roads beneath canopies of emerald, scarlet, gold and orange, past small towns where ornamental trees such as Norway maple join with the native sumac, maple, birch and oak serves to lift our spirits once again by providing a spectacular conclusion to a magical day.

Tomorrow, perhaps, we will set out on another autumn drive - mother and daughter - with the same joy and appreciation of nature we have shared together for the past fifty years.

My husband just called from Colorado to let me know that we have almost a foot of snow on our property on Yankee Creek. By the time I get home at the end of this month, all of the aspen will be bare. But what an autumn I have had - from the aspen's golden grandeur in Colorado to Pennsylvania's dizzying kaleidoscope of color - Thank you once again, Mother Nature!

## *Minutes of the October 10, 2006 Meeting*

President Nan Spence called the meeting to order at 11.45am. 35 members were present. All members had just served themselves a delicious lunch.

Nan thanked many members –

- The hospitality committee
- Members who brought the food
- The decorators for the beautiful presentation of the lunch.

The hospitality committee still needs one more member to sign up to bring food at the November meeting.

### Member News:

- Recent death of Mary Pinder's husband
- Jesse Davis coming home from the rehab center
- Louise Mounsey, our member of 40 years, who is presently on a trip to FLA in search of the Ivory Billed Woodpecker that she and her husband sighted 30 years ago (but without a photograph.)

### Secretary's Report: Chris Gray, acting secretary.

- Correspondence: Two letters from World Gardening Recipients. Plant and a card had been sent to Mary Pinder .

Minutes from the September meeting were approved as written.

Handicap Parking: Temporary handicap parking spaces will be made available for members at our meeting times – the orange cones designates a handicap parking space. Members who have mobility issues should use these spaces.

### Business Member Announcements: Coordinator Connie Staponski –

- EGC members will be made aware of any events being held by our business members
- Connie will be working with business members on becoming involved in our Dec holiday party
- EGC web site will feature our business members

Wild Bird Store Open House: Nan has headed up this event for our club. EGC members have volunteered to host the garden club booth on Sat Oct 14 from 9am to 4pm.

World Gardening: Any of the donated plants from the World Gardening table that are not bought by EGC members during the club meeting will be taken by Ginny Cerrillo to the Seniors' Resource Center. Ginny reminded members that any item that is garden related is suitable for donation to the World Gardening table. A suggestion was made that items on the table be tagged with a suggested \$\$\$ amount.

2007 Garden Tour Update: Plans are well under way for this event. Most of the homes for the tour have been selected. Several homeowners have already accepted EGC offer for their homes to be on tour.

Community Garden Update: Due to the inclement weather, work day in the community gardens had to be cancelled for today. Garden coordinators are working on rescheduling the fall work day.

### Treasurer's Report: As presented by Priscilla Chapin.

Financial statement was approved.

### Budget: The remainder of the meeting was devoted to "The Budget." Items discussed included:

- Location of the money anonymously donated for use at the P.O. garden approx. 3 years ago
- Liability insurance
- The \$50 to each community garden coordinator for incidental expenses (this item was approved for inclusion in the budget)
- Purchase of 3 denim shirts to be used as samples for fitting purposes (item approved)

Approval of the budget for 2006 –2007 was held over for further discussion at the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12.55pm.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Gray – acting secretary

### **Reminder Concerning Parking at Our Monthly Meetings**

Please keep in mind that Evergreen Fire Rescue is providing temporary close-in parking spaces for those members who would experience difficulty in walking from spaces further from the entrance to the building. These spaces are marked with orange cones which you can pull in between to park. For members who are carrying large items into the meeting, such as decorations, food, or world gardening items, you may pull up to the entrance at the front of the building to unload and carry your items in, then move your vehicle to a parking space when you are finished. This also applies on leaving the meeting with items which you are unable to carry to your parking space. This should alleviate any parking concerns. However, please let one of our officers know if you encounter any situations that remain a problem and we will work to get it solved. Thank you for your cooperation and for your thoughtful consideration the needs of other members.



## Over The Garden Fence

By Karla Briggs

### GARDEN YEAR IN RETROSPECT: 2006

No two years are ever the same in the garden. Every year brings its joys and sorrows. In the Briggs 2006 garden the joy and the sorrow came in the same form: a puppy. Actually two puppies. Hounds in the garden test the true mettle of a gardener. Plants were chewed up and spit back up, mashed down, dug up and pooped on. The time and attention that is normally lavished upon the gardens was lavished upon the hounds. But to my amazement the gardens grew and were glorious in a wild and sometimes unrecognizable way. It was not uncommon to come home and find a hound running willy nilly through the yard with a six pack of Lobelia that I had not yet got around to planting, dangling from his mouth. After a call to the veterinarian to find out if Lobelia is toxic to hounds (it is not) I scolded the scoundrel and planted the tattered remains of the day. In a more normal gardening year I would take my morning coffee and wander around the garden to see what had grown and bloomed overnight. This year I would take my pooper scooper around and see what had survived overnight as I cleaned up the deposits that the hounds had left behind.

The hounds and I soldiered on, them trying to understand why, if I was in the garden messing around, they could not do the same. Why, if I was digging up plants, they could not do the same. Why, if I was spreading horse manure around, they could not, well, you get the idea. There were tiny increments of success as the hounds would barrel through the yard, come to a garden bed, stop, think a puppy thought and attempt to go around what they had determined was off limits.

Fall clean up became a whole new ball game. With the cutting back of plants, the sprinkler system was exposed and the hounds found the little stakes and plastic hoses irresistible. Next spring the entire system will need to be replaced as there is nothing even resembling a sprinkler left standing.

So you may be asking yourself where the joy in the 2006 garden was?! It was in a wiggling puppy so happy to have his person down on the ground and accessible for licking. It was in the picture of a puppy sleeping in a mound of Lady's Mantle looking for all the world as if he grew there. It was in the company of loyal and loving hounds that waited for me as the rain clouds hovered overhead, not willing to leave me for a safe dry place. It was in the discovery of just how tough plants can be to take a beating day after day and stay alive.

Apart from the hounds, the 2006 garden started out hot and dry, most plant growth was stunted and they bloomed early as if to say, "we had better get this done". Then the rains came and the plants took on a lush second growth going into fall in excellent condition. The small test garden of Lamium and Mother of Thyme did very well. The plants doubled their size and the rock mulch proved to be a real winner, keeping the plants cool and moist.

In the past, I have said that gardeners have a choice about fall clean up. Cutting back and raking up in the fall leaves less work in the spring, but leaving the plants to mulch themselves offers additional winter protection. This year, however, I have changed my tune. With the onslaught of voles, I decided that I was not going to leave one scrap of food or habitat for the voles, hoping I would discourage them from making their winter home in the garden. Cleaning up so thoroughly also allowed me to easily find the tell tale holes and mounds of soil so I could get after them with the GIANT DESTROYER! We shall see if any of it makes a difference in the amount of damage the voles do over the winter months.

This year we got help with the trees on our property, thinning and taking out most of the standing dead wood. We left some large standing dead Aspen for the Woodpeckers and Flickers to nest in. We then seeded the forest with 75 lbs. of dry pastureland mix from Arkansas Valley Seed. Hopefully winter snows and spring rains will be plentiful and our forested area will be less of a fire hazard and more of an enchanted woods.

Next year the hounds will be older and wiser. (Don't put money on that.) Next year I will be older and wiser. (Don't put money on that either.) Next year the garden will continue to grow and delight me with another unique experience. (You can bet on that.) As I snuggle by the fire and take pleasure in the rest winter brings I look forward to the gift of the 2007 garden.

### Thank You!

I would like to extend a special thank you to the members who joined me in volunteering at the Evergreen Wild Bird Store Open House on October 14: Ruth Alford, Kathy Anderson, Meredith Bossert, Chris Gray, Kathi Grider and Sheila Henriksen. We were also joined by Lynette Makowski, whose garden many club members visited in June 2005. Business members John and Diane Sears, owners of the store, did a wonderful job in organizing this event. Seminars, including one given by our founding member Sylvia Brockner, were held throughout the day. Displays, including ours on Gardening to Attract Birds, provided valuable birding information. A portion of the proceeds will be divided among the groups that participated in this event.

Thank you to all involved!

Nan Spence, President

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### Name that plant???



This adorable plant that looks like a cupcake resides in Karla's kitchen. It blooms too! Ask Karla for more details!

answer (Aeonium Tabuliforme)

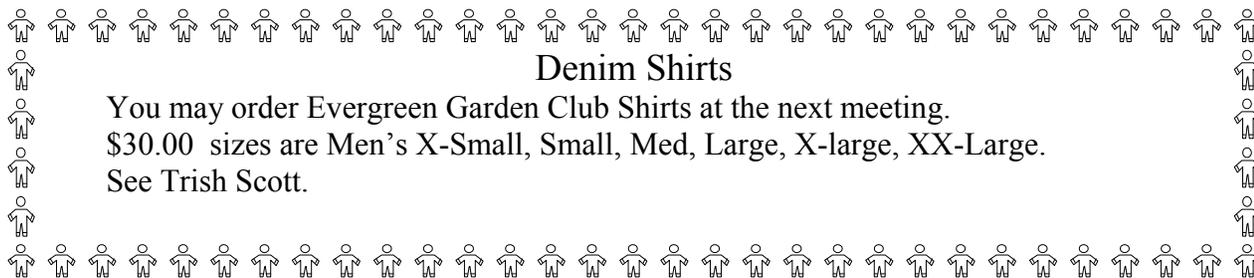
**Autumn** by Bernice Maddox

In the fleeting days of autumn  
There is so much to be done.  
The trees must don bright red and gold  
To glisten in the sun.  
Squirrels must all work overtime  
To store their winter fare  
Geese will make their journey  
To a distant warm somewhere.  
I must drink deeply of her beauty  
And bask in autumn's golden sun,  
As I bid farewell to hummingbirds  
And the monarchs every one.  
I must let the waft of harvest smells  
My receptive nostrils fill.  
And in my heart record the scene  
To view through winter's chill.

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### Denim Shirts

You may order Evergreen Garden Club Shirts at the next meeting.  
\$30.00 sizes are Men's X-Small, Small, Med, Large, X-large, XX-Large.  
See Trish Scott.



## Alluring Lilies by Priscilla Chapin

Now that the first day of autumn is behind us and we are feeling the chill in the air and witnessing the wondrous change of color that Mother Nature is playing out before our eyes our thoughts are leaning towards making some changes in our gardens. One of these changes is the addition of spring flowering bulbs to our beds. With the displays of bulbs showing up everywhere, we think of the usual one such as the tulips, daffodils, etc often overlooking a very beautiful addition to our gardens. I'm speaking of the Liliium bulbs; there are the Asiatic, Oriental, Trumpet, Tiger, Madonna and so forth.

Despite a glamorous appearance, lilies are unfussy. They'll grow anywhere a rose will grow. Many varieties are hardy to zone 3, always read the descriptions for the zones and planting depths. The easiest and most familiar are the Asiatic. Asiatics usher in lily season in June reaching heights of 3-4'. With a waft of perfume, July brings fragrant trumpet species and hybrids. The classic trumpets are most often white but are also now in an array of colors. Aromatic Oriental lilies arrive in July and August as well with gorgeous big blooms and waxy petal of myriad shades. Orientals can be a little fussier than Asiatics or trumpets, especially in area with very hot summers; mulching and afternoon shade, however, keeps them cool and healthy.

Lilies require reliable drainage and at least a half day of sun. Soil should be moist but not wet. And winter is essential; lilies need a time when the soil temperature is less than forty degrees.

Planting lily bulbs a couple of weeks before the ground freezes in fall are best. Plant them as soon as you get them, because they do not have a protective papery tunic. As important, plant deep. Lilies need a depth of two to three times the bulb's height. Their primary feeder roots grow from the below ground part of the stem. Roots growing from the bulb base are anchors. Lilies are heavy feeders, so a top dressing of a tablespoon of tomato fertilizer in springtime when the shoots emerge, and again as they flower. Cut the stems so that more than two-thirds of their leaves remain on the plants; after blooming, the foliage produces nutrients. An exception to the plant deep is the Madonna lily, they need to be planted shallow, no more than 2" over the tip of the bulb. They are one of my favorite; however, usually not available locally, you will probably have to mail order them, but are worth the trouble. They are very hardy and do well in our mountain gardens, growing to about 3' with the stalk covered in pure white blooms, they multiply quickly allowing you to share or increase your clump size. All lilies have the ability to live, multiply and continue to flower for several years without being divided or disturbed, in fact, they prefer that. Be sure to put in a marker in the spots that you plant them in the fall so you can avoid disturbing them once they are settled in.

Tiger lilies should not be planted in the same spot as the Asiatic, Oriental or Trumpet; they are prone to viral infection and need their own spot away from the others. I often put the Asiatic and Oriental together in the same spot for they bloom at different times and by doing this you have lilies in bloom for a longer period of time.

A little mulch over them for the winter and then in the spring after they emerge put a small clay pot over them when we get a real cold spell for the flower buds are in the tip and needs protection from freezing, they can take a light freeze but I keep a pot or a cloche near by and put over them on cold nights.

If after several years a lily display begins to suffer or several stems appear, don't despair; the multiplying bulbs are simply crowded. Carefully dig, separate, and re-plant after the leaves yellow. Then expect astonishment, and relish being vanquished.

HORTICULTURE

**GARDEN CLUB BUSINESS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT****edward jones investment****Mary A. DeBaets**

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Mary DeBaets was born in Evergreen and is a native of Colorado. Before beginning her career with Edward Jones in June of 2000 and opening her Bergen Park office in September of 2001, she was a Communication Manager for Coors Brewing Company for 12 years. A graduate of Regis University, Mary received her Bachelor's of Science in Business degree in 1997. Edward Jones, one of the only major financial-services firms advising individual investors exclusively, currently serves more than 6 million clients. The firm offers its clients a variety of investments, including certificates of deposit, taxable and non-taxable bonds, stocks and mutual funds. The largest firm in the nation in terms of branch offices, Edward Jones currently has more than 9,000 offices in the United States and, through its affiliates, in Canada and the United Kingdom. Mary supports the local community and volunteers for the Evergreen Animal Protective League and she is a member of Team Evergreen. Mary serves on the board of directors for the Evergreen Area Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Evergreen. She was past chair of the Evergreen Chamber and past chair for the Evergreen Rotary fundraising event "Wines in the Woods". Mary and her husband Steve have been married for 15 years.



Evergreen Garden Center  
November 9th 2006

Holiday Open House from 6-9pm

The open house activities will be carried into the following weekend

Nov. 11th & Nov. 12th.

ANN RIPLEY BOOK SIGNING AT HEARTHFIRE BOOKS NOVEMBER 9th



"Death in the Orchid Garden" a gardening mystery by Ann Ripley will be the topic of discussion at 4PM Thursday, November 9th at HearthFire Books. This book is the tenth in the Louise Eldridge amateur detective series. Garden club members may recall that Ann read from this book at our October meeting last year.

HearthFire books is located at 1254 Bergen Parkway in Suite D118.

Evergreen Garden Club  
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***Celebrating our  
40th Anniversary***

## Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events

[www.denverbotanicgardens.org](http://www.denverbotanicgardens.org)

### 2006 Holiday Sale

Denver Botanic Gardens' 43rd Annual Holiday Sale, scheduled for November 17-19, will offer shoppers a festive atmosphere while they browse a wide selection of gifts from more than 60 vendors! Botanical artwork, clothing, jewelry, home accents, holiday décor, hand-crafted items, pottery and more will be available at this year's Sale.

Based on the 2005 customer and vendor survey, we have made some changes that we are confident will provide a better customer experience and make this year's Holiday Sale better than ever! Some of the changes include:

No more long check-out lines! Shoppers will now purchase directly from vendors

Free gift wrapping service for shoppers Adjusted hours

Limited number of vendors per category; more variety for your shopping pleasure!

Admission: Free

Members receive 10% off all gift purchases.

Parking: Free Times: (Please note our new hours for this year's sale!)

Friday, November 17 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., Member-Only Shopping Hour 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Open to the Public

Saturday, November 18 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., Member-Only Shopping Hour 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Open to the Public

Sunday, November 19 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Open to the Public

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### November 13, 2006 - January 31, 2007



Scientific Illustration in the Flora of North America, "Asteraceae"

This exhibit contains drawings of species of Asteraceae (the Composite Family) created by Marjorie Leggitt, scientific illustrator and instructor in the Gardens' Botanical Illustration Certificate Program. With 2,413 species in North America (north of Mexico), Asteraceae is the largest family in the area. Don't miss this unique exhibit of drawings, which appeared in recently published Vols. 19-21 of the Flora of North America (FNA). The lead center in the preparation of the volumes was the FNA Editorial Center at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.