



Evergreen Garden Club

The Wild Iris

Volume 18, Issue 19 March 2008

A Word from the President...

A MOVEABLE FEAST

One of the subjects from Marcia Tatroe’s presentation that I keep mulling in my mind is her idea of using containers to create “oasis zones”. She described an oasis zone as a smaller area in our gardens where we can grow plants that have specific water, light or warmth requirements that are difficult if not impossible to meet in our larger landscaped areas.

I have some favorite plants that will not over winter in my garden, i.e. Agapanthus, Ornamental Grasses, Rosemary, Lavender, Russian Sage and Salvias. I love these plants and by growing them in containers I can give them the care they need and locate them in just the right spot. The containers can also be brought into the greenhouse for the winter months and put back outside in the garden the following spring, once the danger of frost has passed.

Some other advantages of growing certain plants in containers are that we can protect them from the weather and critters. In our area, frost can come as late as June and as early as September. Marcia suggests putting a tomato cage in or around the container and covering it with a sheet held on by clothespins to provide frost protection for the plants. Containers can also be placed out of the reach of deer and elk, and so far I haven’t heard of a vole burrowing into a pot of flowers.

There are limitless possibilities for what constitutes a container: as long as it can hold soil, has drainage and is stable it can be used to hold plants. An old bucket, half of a wine barrel, a trough, even an old cowboy boot, as well as a beautiful pot or urn can be used. Be sure to take notice of microclimates in your garden and use them to their advantage when placing the containers. A microclimate can protect plants from excessive sun and wind or it can provide a temperature variation either warmer or cooler. Container plants can be used to add interesting color or texture to an area in the garden. They can also be moved around as the season dictates or your heart’s desire.

By using containers for plants that have a high water requirement, you can reduce the amount of water used to keep the rest of the garden growing. Most containers will need to be watered

(continued on pg. 2)

Inside this issue:

Club News.....	2
Garden Fence.....	4
Minutes	2
Horticulture.....	6

EGC 2007-2008

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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 Beth Feldkamp at 303-679-9465 or EGCBeth@comcast.net

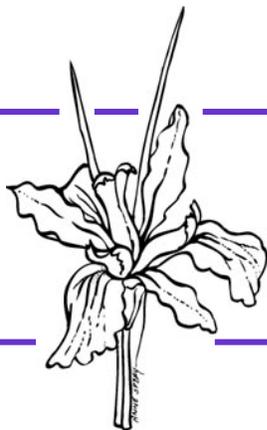
Newsletter Contributions are due by the 20th of each month to Liz Hamilton@Liz@Maia-Consulting.com

Newsletter Editor & Website
Evergreengardenclub.org

March 11, 2008

“Making a Splash with Water Gardens & Water Features”

<p>This seminar will explore all types of water gardens and water features from container gardens and pondless waterfalls to larger, natural ponds. Tim Boettcher, President of True Pump & Equipment, Inc. will present valuable information on the natural ecosystem of ponds as well as the design, installation and maintenance of all types of water features. Tim will also highlight the unique and</p>	<p>exciting opportunities water gardens provide for aquatic plants and fish. Meeting starts at 9:30am. Please bring your plants and items for World Gardening. Bring your coffee mug. See you there!</p>
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Garden Club News

Welcome new member!! Twila Vance



Evergreen Garden Club Hospitality Bites

Thanks to Tina Kellogg, Lois Battle, Juanita Zellner, Toni Yerkes, Sharon Eaves, Vivian Michaels, Susan Blake and Bonnie Hisgen for delicious morning treats

	Morning coffee/tea time	March 11, 2008 9:30 am
Linda Ringrose	Joy Young	Liz Barrett
Sharon Eaves		

Plan to arrive early to the meeting: Coffee and tea will be ready to serve @ 9:30 am. The serving table will be set and ready for your contribution. **Bonnie and Julaine **

(Continued from Pres. Message pg. 1)

every day in our arid climate; use a high water-holding capacity soil and make sure it drains well. Remember to use the appropriate soil mixture to suit the plants. For example, cacti and succulents grow better in a more porous mixture to allow for better drainage.

Containers are also great for growing vegetables. One of the most interesting flower boxes I saw last summer was a combination of decorative cabbage, sweet potato vine and tiny trailing petunias. Growing tomatoes and peppers in containers allows you to cover them at night to keep them warm and allows the plants to set fruit. A container with lettuce and spinach provides a summer worth of fresh salads.

A couple of hints for container gardening from my own experience: First, fill the pots with lots of plants; our growing season is short and most containers will not fill out until August and then you only have about two weeks to enjoy them before the threat of frost. Second, if you are planting in a large pot fill the bottom with packing peanuts to lighten the load. They allow for drainage and save your back when moving the pot around.

As the snow melts off my gardens, I will be looking around for places to pop in a container or two or twenty, to create a moveable feast of color and texture in my own "oasis zone".

Dream on,
Karla

Minutes of the February 12, 2008 Meeting

President Karla Briggs called the meeting to order at 9:40 and welcomed guests, Deborah and Arlene, and members. Karla thanked Tina Kellog, the Hospitality Committee and all the members who cooked and baked for this month's meeting. 38 individuals were present.

Minutes from the January '08 meeting were approved with one correction, Linda Ringrose was listed as chair of the Ticket Sales Committee for the Garden Show and this should be the Directions/Signs Committee.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Pam Hinish reported on correspondence.

- Received - Marsha and Randy, January's guest speakers, sent a thank you note for EGC's hospitality ; Hiwan Homestead sent a Christmas card; former president and member, Jean Todd, sent a note and article on bees, and Evergreen Bootstraps sent a note acknowledging and thanking EGC for their recent \$2000 donation.
- Sent – sympathy card to Jo Powers for her father's passing; congratulations card to Chris Gary for her recent citizenship.
-

TREASURER'S REPORT – Beth Feldkamp reported \$300.88 in checking and \$6320.80 in savings with one unrecorded expense of \$300 for the filing of our 501c3 application.

HOSPITALITY – Julaine Kennedy – volunteers are needed to bring goodies to our meetings; a sign-up sheet was circulated.

WORLD GARDENING – Ginny Cerrillo gave a brief explanation of World Gardening and asked members to check out the great plants available at the table this month.

EARTH DAY will be held on Saturday April 19, 10:00-4:00 at the Evergreen Lake House. This will be a great opportunity to let the public know about our June Garden Show and Plant Sale. EGC has traditionally participated and Karla circulated a sign-up sheet for a chair and committee members.

A THANK YOU was presented to Barbara DeCaro for all her hard work on the 501c3 which has been submitted. She received handmade candles (from Trish Scott), a wild iris pin designed by Ken Ball, and a thank you card.

GARDEN TOUR, PLANT SALE AND LECTURE

Irma Wolf – Garden Tour – JUNE 28, 2008

- Everyone will have the opportunity to work on the day of the Garden Tour and before; committee chairs have been selected from last month's sign-ups, if you need to change please negotiate that with you committee; Irma has provided guidelines and timeframes for each committee; progress reports will be made directly to her or at the EGC meetings; a sign-up sheet was circulated (you are encouraged to sign-up for more than one committee as the work of many will be done before the actual day of the event). We expect 250-300 folks to attend.

Lecture – Ken Ball

- Charles Mann, a well known garden photographer from Santa Fe, will be our guest lecturer the day of the Garden Tour. Charles was the photographer for the Secret Gardens of Santa Fe and for Marcia Tatroe's book, Cutting Edge Gardening in the Intermountain West. Both Charles and Marcia will be available for a book signing after Charles' lecture and slide show. The presentation will be from noon to 1:00 and box lunches will be available by order. Individuals may purchase tickets for the Garden Tour and lecture or either. The site for the lecture is still to be decided and the ticket prices are being determined.

Plant Sale – Trish Scott

- The garden owners have provided lists of their 3 favorite plants which will be available for purchase at their gardens. Club members and garden owners will be able to purchase plants prior to the Garden Tour, approximately 1 week before. The plants will be delivered to the garden owners the night before the Tour. We are purchasing the plants from Little Valley Nursery, a wholesale nursery.

New Business – none.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Hinish.



Over The Garden Fence

By Tina Kellogg

Holly cow its March already! It can either be the gateway to spring or...you know...the snowiest month yet! Hmm, think I'll take the first option. On the brighter side, I'll inevitably get to see something popping through the gardens' crust this month. I have a small garden off my back porch, south facing, protected area where the earliest of early regularly show up for our anniversary. Ergo I call them 'Anniversary' flowers. Clever huh? Oh well, so much for my artistic flare, I think it's a little wintered out! I know it does absolutely no good at all to whine about the winter up here. It doesn't make it go away any quicker, doesn't bring out the sun or early bloomers one bit sooner. Still, I fear I have joined that crowd this year, because whining about winter is exactly what I've been doing! In part this year has been tougher because I spent most all of November on the Gulf Coast of Sarasota Florida. Weather here has been a tad down hill ever since! Coming home the end of the month to a windy sixteen degrees was more of a jolt than my body could handle. Then the knowing that there would be months of this to come; any how it set the mood for what seems to have been a longer winter than most. But the whining is over, spring IS just around the corner and I have warm Floridian memories to warm up these cold spring days.

No, I wasn't in Florida on vacation, I went with a cause. I went to plan and plant a butterfly garden in my 'best bud's' backyard! I'd hoped to show you how much it's grown in the winter months, but unfortunately my girl friends camera broke, so I'll have to share the narrative version.

Gardening in a different zone, a very large difference in zones, might as well have taken me to a different planet. (I'm at a five most of the time but Mary's backyard is squarely between 91/2 and 10!) "Ooooo" everybody says, "How fun was that?" I traveled between three different garden centers to glean what I could, bought a book about butterfly gardens in Florida, and visited a few community gardens the first half of my visit. I felt like a sponge; I just couldn't soak up enough. I was happy to know, I knew more than I thought I did in that a lot of the plant material was similar to what you would expect butterflies to be attracted to here in Colorado. Now when it came to the pronunciations I did find myself on another planet! Not just the southern drawl, but seemingly different language all together for common names. Fortunately my identification skills were good enough to get me the plants I sought. (My Latin knowledge is extremely limited) They had a yellow buddleia called 'honey comb' the spelling (buddleja) and pronunciation was nothing I heard before. But still the same hardy shrub I was looking for and yellow to boot. (Butterflies love yellows) I was happy to see some of my favorite 'stinky' standbys like hysop or agastache. I guess I thought of this variety as a western plant that did well with dryer climates, but no, surprised again, it's said they do well in Florida. Then of course there are the annuals that we enjoy for a short time, that perennialize themselves in this climate. Imagine buying impatience in November! I'd never seen so many kinds of salvias. It's a huge family; I knew this, but the variety of sizes and colors of blossoms, definitely tropical. Tropical Salvia surprised me, this sweet sought after 'little' annual becomes a huge woody shrub there! When it came to design, there was a bit of trouble, my girl friend kept reminding me, "Do you know how big these are going to be in a few months?" (She was talking about the tiny 'annuals' I was planting!) Some plants you won't find up here that the butterflies love are porter weed, firecracker plant, passion flower vine, Dutchman's pipe vine, and African petunias. They break down the butterfly plants in two major categories, nectar plants and host plants. Not enough just to attract them, you need to provide homes as well. Despite my let down to our cold, cold climate, I had a great time; A working vacation that turned into more play than I imagined.

I can't let this opportunity go by without thanking the powers that be for asking me to present "Veggies Organic Style". And thanks to those of you who 'stuck it out' to get the whole picture. Unfortunately it took time and details to explain this whole picture and I am afraid I disappointed those who wanted to see more pictures of the veggie gardens we grow. Despair not... you can always go to the website to see veggie photos. If you have questions you can always e-mail me at Tina@GivenTrees.com

The 2008 class schedule is finally up, we're starting early this year with seed starting so sign up soon! Classes start March 29th

Tina
GivenTrees.com

EGC booth at the Earth Day Event, Saturday, April 19th 10 a.m. to 4:p.m. at the Evergreen Lake House Please call Tina if you like to volunteer 303.679.9921

HORTICULTURE

Evergreen Garden Club has a long history of supporting our community. I am guessing, but feel pretty sure that during the 1960's there were "gardener transplants" that recognized each other by the dirt proudly displayed under their fingernails. I imagine conversations about gardening being overheard in public places like the grocery store and post office. While our mountain community grows so do the opportunities for public beautification and our connection to our residents.

As I prepare this for our newsletter I am browsing through the EGC Hiwan Museum Gardens, notebook. This is one of many EGC historical scrapbooks that link us to legacy and past history.

In 1976 there were 3 garden clubs in Evergreen, Colorado. The Canyon Courier article, dated, June 3, 1976 announced one of the communities' centennial projects, "An Old Fashioned Cutting Garden". Laurie Moeller, head of intermediate Pippisissaewa Gardeners and Ruth Boe president of the Women's Garden Club & the Junior Kinnikinnick Club are shown digging in the dirt @ Hiwan Homestead Museum. The photos (Kodak Instamatic -small square photos) provide a keyhole look at what it was like way back then.

At the top of the scrapbook page is a small clipping, probably from meeting minutes, that list additional planting and maintaining flower beds at Evergreen Art Gallery, Hiwan Homestead and Main Street. (I just love Louise Mounsey's story about the flower containers the club maintained at the intersection of Hwy 73 & 74). Traffic whizzed by gardeners with buckets of water bound for the bridge boxes full of annual flowers and the large containers in the middle of the intersection. And there were more centennial garden club projects that included planting and maintaining at the Evergreen Cemetery and Evergreen Branch Library.

By 1984 Hiwan Homestead Museum had new walkways installed. On this page is a Canyon Courier photo and article dated 1985 that describes the renovation of the Old-fashioned Garden project. Our members decided to develop a garden plan that would be typical of a late 1880-early 1900's garden. A collection of herbs growing near the entrance were relocated. A plan for the herb garden was recreated during this time period.

Evergreen, our mountain community, Gene and Barbara Sternberg, (Johnson Publishing CO, 1987) includes the history of the areas surrounding Hiwan Homestead. Mary Williams purchased a large parcel in the mid-1800 that included a small cabin (still exists as part of the Homestead Museum). Jock Spence, a local master carpenter was hired to remodel and add to the old structure. It became the summer home and camp for Mary, family and guests.

I wonder what the Hiwan Homestead Gardens were really like in the 1980's (100 yrs ago when it was summer home for easterners). I would love to pause here and listen to our fellow EGC gardeners!!!

Since the 1984 old-fashioned garden renovation Evergreen has experienced considerable new development. Deer, elk and longtime residents have felt the squeeze of open space that once existed. Problems the 1976 EGC members experienced <traffic at 73/74 intersection> still exists for us today. The community has changed; and so have its people. Maybe it is time for another renovation. (Yikes, what a bit of historical exploration will do for the mind). Each year our volunteers gather at Hiwan Homestead Garden for spring clean up. We ponder on what will deter the elk and deer. Annual, perennial, tree, shrub, herb are accounted for and losses are tallied. Wildlife migration routes, size of herds and our millennium quality of life expectations clash with natural co-existence. It's the smell of healthy rich soils, the discovery of new shoots and always wonderful early flowering ground covers that add new energy to our thoughts. Just like the pioneers of our community, the gardeners of the 70's & 80's have a common thread. We are together in that place for a short period of our busy lives; one of life's incredible pleasures. We work up a little sweat and see progress in a bag full of weeds and feel connected to one another.

A recent study at University of Illinois, Urbana campus is exploring the connection between greenery and health. <http://www.lhhl.uiuc.edu/index.htm> Our connection with green landscapes may help boost our concentration and ability to cope. Activities that included outdoor settings can reduce symptoms of AD/HD. Our outdoor settings for community activities helps build strong inner city communities. People feel more comfortable in an outdoor living space when there are more trees, grass and flowers. The research recognizes greater interaction between neighbors that results in greater trust among neighbors.

Thanks to the founders of Evergreen Garden Club and all who over the past 43 years have contributed their time and ideas for beautification, bonding friendships, healthier minds and bodies. EGC members support 10 public gardens. There's always room for more volunteers...and the benefits far outweigh the energy we give to the gardens.

Spring is just 23 days away. Yahoo! Julaine Kennedy

Evergreen Garden Club Member Plant Order Form

Plants will be delivered to a central location the week of June 16-20 in Evergreen- we will notify you as to the pick-up date.

* Make checks payable to Evergreen Garden Club.

* Mail copy of order with check payable to EGC to Evergreen Garden Club, Po Box 1393, Evergreen CO 80437

*****Payment must be received by March 20th2008.

Name _____ Phone# _____

Email _____

Plant name/ common name / plant location (Sun or Shade)/ Water requirements (Low- High)/ Elevation / Flower color. The size of pot and price.

Agastache aurantiaca "Coronado"/Hyssop/Sun-Shade/Low/7000/Orange

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Aster novi-belgii "Alert"/Aster,Dwarf Red Fall / Sun/ Medium/ 8500/Red

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50 = \$ _____

Delosperma floribundum "Starburst" / Iceplant / Sun/ Low /8000 / Rose-white

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50 = \$ _____

Geranium cantabrigiense/ Cranesbill Geranium/ Sun&Shade/Medium/8000/Pink

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Geranium sanguineum/Bloody Cranesbill /Sun&Shade/Medium/8500/Red-purple

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Humulus lupulus neomexicanus/Hopvine/Sun- partial shade/low/9000/Yellowish-Green

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Lavandula angustiflora "Munstead"/Lavender/Sun/Low/8500/Lavender-blue

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Lonicera japonia"Halliana"/Halls Honeysuckle/Sun/Medium/8500/Creamy-white

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Nepeta faasssenii"Six Hills Giant"/Catmint/Sun/Low/8500/Lavender

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Papaver orientale "Princess Victoria Louise"/Oriental Poppy/Sun/Low/9000/Salmon

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Penstemon eatonii/Firecracker Penstemon/Sun/Low/8000/Firey-red

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

Rudbeckia fugida "Goldsturm"/Black-Eyed Susan/Sun/Low/8000/Golden-Yellow

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

**Special order-waiting on confirmation

Aquileia /White columbine/Sun-Shade/Medium/8000/White

Size 2.25" # _____ @ \$2.50= \$ _____

**Larger Plants

Gaillardia grandiflora "Burgundy"/ Blanket flower /Sun/ Low/8500/ Burgundy-Red

Size 4" # _____ @ \$5.00= \$ _____

Papaver orientale "Prince of Orange"/Oriental Poppy/Sun/Low/9000/Orange

Size 4" # _____ @ \$5.00= \$ _____

Salvia nemorosa "Rose Queen"/Salvia/Sun/Low/8500/Rose

Size 4" # _____ @ \$5.00= \$ _____



Thank you to Jean Todd for submitting this article.

Steamboat Springs — The best honey I've ever tasted comes from a bee keeper right here in Steamboat. Pat Skokes sells to Rising Sun Ranch, which then infuses the honey with lavender buds. Whether it's doctored up with a little additional flavor or aroma like the lavender honey I enjoy, all honey will take on the aroma and flavor of the plant on which the bees feed. Honey is claimed from one of two processes: extracted honey or comb honey. Extracted honey is that which is found in liquid form taken from honey combs; comb honey is that which is found still in its natural comb. A third kind of honey is called chunk honey and is a combination of the liquid extracted honey with some honeycomb chunks included in the bottle.

If you're interested in beekeeping or just like to have bees around for their wonderful work in pollinating trees and flowers, here's a list of bee-attracting plants for the mountains. It was compiled by CSU horticulturist Whitney Cranshaw and is the first draft of an attempt to rank Colorado flowers in terms of their use by foraging honey bees. I've listed the proper botanic name first with the common name, if it is different, in parentheses. For best results, be sure to obtain plants marked Zone 4 for both USDA temperatures and heat zones.

Allium tangiticum (Chives, onion), Agastache foeniculum (Anise hyssop), Antirrhinum (Snapdragon), Aster novae-angliae (New England aster), Chrysanthemum serotinum (Herbstern), Cleome, Echinops exalta (Globe thistle), Euphorbia "Diamond Frost" (Spurge), Gaillardia aristata (Blanket flower), Geranium "Jolly Bee", Geranium himalayense, Helianthus "Lemon Queen" (Common sunflower), Heliotropium Knipholia (Red hot poker, torch lily), Malva alcea (Mallow), Nepeta x fausonii (Catmint), Ocimum (Basil — annual), Origanum (Oregano, marjoram), Pentas (Star clusters — annual), Penstemon eatonii (Firecracker penstemon), Salvia nemorosa (Sage), Satureja Montana (Winter savory), Scabiosa (Pincushion flower), Sedum spectabile (Stonecrop), Senecio (Dusty miller), Solidago (Goldenrod), Syringa (Lilac), Teucrium orientale (Germander), Veronica spicata "Sunny Border Blue" (Speedwell), According to Cranshaw, the plants listed above reported multiple observations of honey bee activity when the plants were in flower. The attraction power of these plants can be changed should the needs of local honey bees change or should there be other flowering plants in the vicinity of those listed above.

To learn more about beekeeping and honey production, take advantage of a Web search engine such as Google. There are dozens of sites with helpful information. Or, for an entertaining view of beekeeping, check out "Ulee's Gold" on DVD. Deb Babcock is a Master Gardener through the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service Office in Routt County. Questions? Call 879-0825 or e-mail to gardeners@co.routt.co.us.

Old Wives' Lore for Gardeners

by Maureen & Bridget Boland

Sartorial

It is curious how often in old herbals we are advised to sow not only when the moon is full but naked, ourselves, at the time. "The best husbandmen," writes one, "would have the seedsman of turnips or grapes to be naked when he sows them and in sowing to protest that this which he doth is for himself and his neighbours." Presumably, it was hope that the gods might look more kindly on the naked, innocent amateur than on the prosperous market gardener. Perhaps, though, the advice was not always given for purely magical reasons; we should not sow when the ground is too cold for the good of the seed, and are less likely to do so if we are told we must be naked when we do it.

We have heard that in Lincolnshire, to test whether the soil was in the right condition for sowing barley, farmers used to take off their trousers and sit on the ground; if it was comfortable for them it would be comfortable for the barley. With the greater density of populations, the modern gardener will probably be content to test the soil with a bared elbow, as a mother does the water for her baby's bath.

Submitted by Kathi Grider

Evergreen Garden Club
PO Box 1393
Evergreen, Colorado 80437
www.evergreengardenclub.org



Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events www.denverbotanicgardens.org

Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society

Contact: Marc Wilson, 303-799-0610

Show or Sale: March 29 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) & March 30 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Gates Garden Court, Gates Hall & Mitchell Hall

Denver Orchid Society

Contact: Roger Rockenbach, 303-744-1291 or info@DenverOrchidSociety.org

Show or Sale: March 8 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) & March 9 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Mitchell Hall