



Evergreen Garden Club

The Wild Iris

Volume 21, Issue 7

April 2009

A Word from the President...

April Showers Bring...

I always thought April Fools' Day was a great day to have snow. After a warm March, everything getting ready to bud, then it snows! Kind of like Mother Nature blowing raspberries back at us; she's such a tease. Well this year, I have to take the attitude that plunging back into winter might not be such a bad deal; with the condition that it must bring snow...(okay, believe it or not I'd written this BEFORE all the snow started and the very chilly 6 degrees this morning is a little too much like winter)

Well, I suppose the biggest news this month is an organic Victory Garden at the White House. I can't tell you how it makes me want to cheer! Despite its relatively small size it's a big step and a huge boost for the self sustaining attitudes that come from the back yard veggie garden.

It's been a very busy month for those of us in the industry, constantly prepping three or four months in advance. To aid all of us on our journey of garden knowledge I'm looking forward to our panel discussion this month. Bob Kennedy, Teri Carroll and Arlene Fitterer will head a panel of discussion about soils, amendments, trees and shrubs, herbs, annuals and perennials. This is a different format from our previous presentations, geared to be interactive. Each will give us a brief introduction to their background and experience on their topic and then we'll follow with questions and discussions on the same. Come prepared! Write a question or two down before our meeting; keep it brief so all will have a chance to ask questions. I'm anxious to see how it all comes together, and look forward to the discussions.

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EGC 2008-2009 Board Members

President:

Tina Kellogg

Vice Presidents:

Bonnie Hisgen

Lucy Ginley

Secretary:

Pam Hinsh

Treasurer:

Beth Feldkamp

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 Edito@EvergreenGardenClub.com

Newsletter Editor & Website EvergreenGardenClub.org

April 14, 2009

"Annuals, Perennials, Soil Amendments"

Panel Members:

Bob Kennedy (soils and amendments); Arlene Fitterer (annuals herbs and baskets); Terri Carroll (trees and shrubs).

A panel discussion followed by a question and answer session.

ing green, your own coffee mug. See you there!

Meet at the Fire & Rescue Station on Bergen Parkway at 9:30 am.

Remember to bring your plants, cuttings, pots etc for the World Gardening Table.... And in keeping with be-

Garden Club meetings will be cancelled wherever Jefferson County Mountain Schools are closed because of inclement weather. This will eliminate any confusion or the need for last minute communications about weather cancellations.



Garden Club News

Hospitality Bites

The hospitality team for April is as follows:

Please would you arrive between 8:45 & 9:00 am to help set up the room and be prepared to stay after the meeting for clean-up. **THANKS!**



Linda Ringrose

Ruth Alford

Beth Feldkamp

Marilyn Kaussner

Mary Pender

Louise Mounsey

Susan Blake

Peggy/Dale Fetchenheir



Welcome New Members

Barbara Steger Cathi Edmund



April Birthdays

4/13 Bev Wickland

4/15 Jeri Dufford

4/6 Louise Mounsey

4/20 Barbara Conroy

4/25 Jeff Davidson

Minutes of the March 10th, 2009 Meeting

MINUTES – MARCH 10, 2009 MEETING

President Tina Kellogg called the meeting together at the Evergreen Fire House at 9:45 and welcomed new members Diana Aldrige, Barbara Steger, Cathi Edmunds and Jackie Whyte. 50 members were present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Pam Hinish

- Diana Aldridge motioned for approval of the February minutes, Priscilla Chapin seconded and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A sympathy card was sent to Jan Schoonveld for the passing of her husband Gil and a get well card was sent to Juanita Zeller who had a hip replacement. Thank you letters were circulated that were received from St. Anthony's Orphanage for our World Gardening Fund contribution.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Beth Feldman

- Current balances are \$390.48/checking and \$8821.72/savings.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Tina Kellogg

- Growth – EGC is growing! A new flyer and member application is being designed.
- A motion from the February meeting for the approval of By-laws presented was approved unanimously with the additional 10 votes from members not present last month.

PLANT SALE - Lucy Ginley

- Lucy thanked members for the plant suggestions they have sent and circulated the list for comments.
- Date of Plant Sale is JUNE 6 (1st Saturday in June) at the Hiwan Homestead.
- Costs from past sales were \$2.50/2 ½" pot and \$5.00/4" pot; we will try to do the same this year depending on suppliers' costs.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE - Marilyn Kaussner

- Botanic Gardens need volunteers to be Rare Plant Stewards and will be training on June 12 & 13 at the Denver Botanic Gardens.
- Colorado Natural Areas also has a steward program; please email Marilyn at JPLMR@comcast.net for additional information on both.
- April 18 is Earth Day and we will have a booth at the Lake House celebration; the Nature Center at the Lake also opens that day.
- June 27 is Weed Day at the Nature Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Irma Wolf – Discussion on watering of the community gardens. Although it has been extremely dry the recommendation is to only hand water new plantings and not to turn on water systems and set up hoses that would need to be drained to avoid freezing.
- Karen McFarquhar - Please let her know if you need an EGC nametag.
- Susan Granell - Susan will be showing her quilts at Evergreen Library the month of April and invites all to stop and enjoy them!

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15. Respectfully submitted, Pam Hinish



Over The Garden Fence

By Julaine Kennedy

As we are approaching that time of the year when a nominating committee will be announced to find us a new board, the editors felt this article from May of 2005 appropriate to be re-printed. New members will also enjoy reading some facts of our founders back in 1966.

Evergreen Garden Club is reaching a new horizon. Way back in 1966 a few women sought out one another in tiny hamlet known as Evergreen. Many of them had moved from deeper soil pockets of the world and longed to gather together grit and substance to carry on gardening with friends.

They met regularly gleaning tips from one another as well as encouraging one another's green thumbs. Louise Mounsey can tell us more about their beginnings but for now, believe me there was something very special about those women and children that has quietly supported nearly 43 years (2005-2006 garden club calendar year) of a phenomenal garden club. In the early years I have been told and seen pictures of the summer plantings at the intersection of Hwy 73/74, The EGC Photo/Scrapbook has a sweet photo of Sue Lams (her mama brought her up with dirt under her fingers) planting at the old library, Pictures of members inside the Evergreen Drugstore in May selling vegetable starter plants and hardy perennials dug from their gardens and wearing heavy winter coats and boots.

As the years moved forward so did the club. One could compare it to the weather. Some years there was great expectations and growth and the club spread out over the community with more projects and garden friendships. And just like weather the club has weathered the storms, patiently waiting for sunshine. Like all organizations our club has periods of drought due to lack of leadership.

Again Louise, Priscilla Chapin and others know that although it is disconcerting to all of us, the club survives.

Our current elected officers have served for 2 years plus and everyone of understands why they would like to pass the spade and trowel to others. It is good for all of us to have new blood in the club and also on the board.

Interest builds as new people get their heads together and introduce all of us to their choices. It is important to remember that each board has the opportunity set the pace of the club's activities.

Our club has an abundance of creative and hospitable members who I would love to see bringing their talents to the leadership of EGC. I ask each of you... whether you are a long-time member, a new member and/or an armchair observer, we need your help this coming year to keep us going.

Will you consider helping us with a piece of organization that is entering it's 43th year as Evergreen Garden Club? All we need are programs you feel will be interesting, keep us informed by the year-book and newsletter of what's happening, invite us to get dirty cleanin' up the community gardens and feed us once in a while. We will be there to help you and appreciate your service to Evergreen Garden Club

Julaine Kennedy from Wild Iris issue, May 2005

(continued from President's Message pg1)

Other items to note in April: (and there are lots!)

- I'll appoint a nominating committee to find us a new board.
- Thanks to Trish for organizing Earth Day at the Lake House on April 18th.
- The plant sale committee has been working diligently to select the plants that will be for sale, BIG thanks to Lucy for heading all this up.
- The "diggers" for the members part of the plant sale will meet on Saturday, April 25th to scope out where all these green volunteers are coming from and if they're far enough along AND if weather permits, we'll be digging.
- Sign up sheets for our spring clean up in May:
 - We'll have our breakfast meeting and elections first, and then head to the Gardens.
 - We'll also be asking for volunteers to find new gardens for the 2010 Garden Tour
 - Thanks Irma, for heading up this endeavor.

Wow, I can't believe how time flies! June? Are we ready?

Tina Kellogg



Welcome Spring?!?

This photo was taken by Paul Luzetski in his garden last spring. This is typical Colorado weather as we know it.

It's Narcissus "Jetfire".

A Reminder

Earth Day is April 18 from 10:00—4:00pm

At The Evergreen Lake House

If you haven't already signed up to work, please
do so at the meeting on the April 14th

HORTICULTURE

Voles (moles & gophers)the ongoing search for a good riddance!!

Here are some new ideas. Let us know if they work or you have any others to add. Editor

This was submitted by Karla Briggs. A fellow gardener and a reliable source tells her it works!



Super Sonic Repeller

Keep your landscape free of destructive burrowing critters like moles, gophers, voles, squirrels and others. Just place the waterproof aluminum tube in the soil. Its penetrating sonic pulses won't affect pets but will irritate the highly sensitive hearing of rodents, sending them scurrying fast. Buries flush with ground for easy mowing.

Underground rodents have poor eyesight. Hearing and sensitivity to ground vibrations are well developed. These senses warn gophers, moles, and other burrowing animals of danger so they flee dangerous situations. MoleControl's sonic sound bursts create ground vibrations that frighten ground rodents. The MoleContro works as for gopher control and mole and vole control. Animals are not harmed. No chemicals or sprays.

More information online at: <http://www.charleysgreenhouse.com/7772-Mole---Gopher-Chaser.htm>

Mole Repeller - Solar Powered

One of our most popular mole chaser units, the Solar Mole Repeller chases unwanted burrowing rodents with the strongest and least expensive power available - the sun. This Mole chaser is solar-powered and maintenance-free. Most underground rodents have poor eyesight, yet nature has given them a very acute sense of hearing and sensitivity to ground vibration. The Solar Mole Repeller exploits this sensitivity to produce a penetrating sonic sound of 400Hz over an area of approximately 7,500 square feet (1/6 acre) every 30 seconds.



The design allows the repeller to be buried flush with the ground for easy lawn mowing.

Insert the unit into the ground. The penetrating sonic sound irritates burrowing rodents and will send them scurrying away. The Solar Mole Repeller uses state-of-the-art technology to get rid of moles, gophers, voles, shrews and other destructive burrowing rodents.

The Solar Mole Repeller will work for up to 5 days without recharging. Do not expect instant reaction, repeller must be used continuously for up to 7-14 days before ground rodents start to move away from the area. The Solar Mole Repeller is environmentally friendly and eliminates the use of poisons and traps around your children and pets.

The units discreet green-colored control head is watertight. Since one full charge yields up to 5 days of power, the unit is capable of operating even in the most unfavorable weather without interruption.

More information online at: <http://www.getridofmoles.com/solar-mole-repeller.htm>

Voles (moles & gophers) cont....

In response to the March issue item concerning voles:

Voles moved into my cold frame during the fall/winter a few years ago. I discovered that castor oil is not supposed to be used around food plants with the edible part present. My cold frame contains herbs. A person with the Jefferson County Extension Service spent a tremendous amount of time with me, researching the issue thoroughly.

Her and my final conclusion was that I should place a baited & set mousetrap down each vole hole. We set six and then received a large snowstorm. It was two weeks before we could get to the cold frame and open it. One trap had a moldering vole body. There were no more vole holes. We reset the traps, but no more were caught and there was no more activity. We assume the moldering body of their relative encouraged the others to vacate the premises.

I then planted a catnip plant in the middle of the cold frame. I moved an end panel so the neighbor cat would have access. I lectured him on his feline duties. I have not seen any more vole activity in my cold frame. But, we have received gifts of a number of vole bodies at our door. The only down side is that my herbs are covered in cat hairs and have to be washed carefully. I can live with that! I may try the cola idea in the future, also.

Meredith Bossert

Priscilla Chapin came across this web site which has great information and a source for "Deer Off". www.deerresistantplants.com, that our plant sale committee could use for their lists of plants.



"Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle...a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to the light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream."

"Green Exchange "

I am looking for some flagstone for garden paths. And I have about 200 ft. of dog yard fencing, about 4 ft high, used, free to any one who wants it. Thanks! Linda Ringrose, 303-816-9502, lwringrose@yahoo.com

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



Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events

www.denverbotanicgardens.org



Free days for Colorado residents are held throughout the year at both Denver Botanic Gardens and Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield thanks to funding from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).

Free Days are for regular Gardens hours only and do not include ticketed events. www.denverbotanicgardens.org



Rocky Mountain Gardening Certificate Program Elective Two Tuesdays, April 21 and 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. www.denverbotanicgardens.org



Grandkids in town? Check out the new Deer Creek Discovery children's area, which includes a whimsical tree house.

<http://www.botanicgardens.org/content/flourish-from-our-ceo>