

The Wild Iris

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE....

Evergreen Garden Club Members,
 As our beautiful fall weather comes to a close I miss the summer days spent in the garden. Cool mornings planting seeds. Carefully pulling weeds around emerging seedlings. Harvesting tiny, under-sized vegetables that struggle in the high altitude. Watering the partial plants left after the deer have dined. Comparing the lush blooms in the photo on the seed packet with the struggling seedlings in my heavy clay soil.

Maybe I AM ready for winter. The tomato plants that were munched by the elk are no longer an issue. The squash and their wilt are a thing of the past. What to plant in that bare spot next to the house can wait until next spring.

I can now spend the winter planning for next year's garden, where the weeds will never get ahead of me and everything will look like the picture!

Even though I am usually ready to be done with my garden by the end of fall, I still like to admire and enjoy other gardens! Good places to go on

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NOVEMBER 9TH, 2010 MEETING & PROGRAM

“Fairy Gardens – Miniature Landscapes”

Imagine a tiny landscape brimming with enchantment. Donna Wortman and Pam Gilbert, owner of the Holly Berry Flower Shop, will guide us through the magical realm of miniature gardening where fairytales come to life. 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 being green, your own coffee mug.



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2010-2011 OFFICERS

- President—Lucy Ginley
- Vice President—Diana Aldridge & Anne Hittle
- Secretary—Nancy Latimer
- Treasurer—Dwight Gilliland
- Past President—Tina Kellogg
- Member Emeritus—Louise Mounsey

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome New Members!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

No birthdays this month

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONT....

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dreary winter days are the botanical garden, the butterfly pavilion or the tropical tiger environment at the Denver zoo. The local nurseries that carry house plants are also a joy to the senses on a winter day, and usually entice you to bring some of the fragrance home!

The weather for our October Workday definitely wasn't cooperative! I hope that all of you have found some alternative times to spend in Your community garden to prepare it for the coming winter. Thanks to all of you for your care and for your efforts!!

Lucy Ginley, President
Evergreen Garden Club

OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU

Our prayers and thoughts are with member Paul Luzetski who recently lost his partner Douglas Cornell, Jr. to pneumonia and other complications. Doug passed away on October 11th, 2010. We are thinking of you and your families.

Also, we want to let you know that Louise Mounsey recently had a fall and was in the hospital with broken bones. She is home recuperating now. We should keep her and Bill in our thoughts and prayers for a quick recovery.

WEBSITE TO REVIEW PLANTS

Check out the recently created website for plant and flower identification: www.mistersmartyplants.com

Basically it provides a simple way for non experts to upload pictures of plants and flowers they can't identify and then let people with more knowledge vote on the correct identification.

Users who give the correct answers can score points when the plant is ID'd.

BECOME OF FAN OF STEMS FLOWER SHOP ON FACEBOOK—

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/StemsFlowerShop>



GARDENING SMILES

YOU KNOW YOU ARE A MASTER GARDENER WHEN...

1. You rejoice in rain...even after 10 straight days of it.
2. You have pride in how bad your hands look.
3. You have a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
4. You can give away plants easily, but compost is another thing.
5. Soil test results actually mean something.
6. IPM rules!
7. You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.

8. You look for gardens open to the public whenever you go on vacation.

9. Your non-gardening spouse is actually getting involved with your garden endeavors...digging ponds, building bird houses, watering, pruning, turning compost piles, planting...

And you definitely know you are a Master Gardener when...

10. You are surrounded by terrific people who share your passion!

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A GARDENER'S SPOUSE

She dug the plot on Monday, the soil was rich and fine
But she forgot to put the dinner on, so out we went to dine.

She planted roses Tuesday, she says they are a must.
They really were quite lovely, but she forgot to dust.

On Wednesday it was daisies they opened with the sun,
All pinks and whites and yellows, but the laundry wasn't done.

The poppies came on Thursday all bright and cherry red,
I guess she really was engrossed, she never made the bed.

It was violets here on Friday in colours she adores,
It never bothered her at all, the dirt upon our floors.

Saturday I hired a maid, I'd not admit defeat,
She can garden all she wants now and the house will still be neat

It's nearly lunchtime Sunday I cannot find the maid,
Oh I don't believe it. She's out there alongside my wife with her own spade!





ALURRING LILIES, BY PRICILLA CHAPIN (REPRINTED FROM ISSUE NOV2006)

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 *Lilium* 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 petals of myriad shades. Orientals can be a little fussier than Asiatics or trumpets, especially in areas 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 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-

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LILIES CONT....

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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 replant after the leaves yellow. Then expect astonishment, and relish being vanquished.



MINUTES—OCTOBER 2009 MEETING

Copies of the minutes will be available for voting at the meeting...



The book, *Growing Roses in Colorado*, published by the Denver Rose Society is a "must have" for residents who want to grow beautiful roses successfully.

The book provides needed information on a wide range of topics. Available at local garden centers or contact Dave Ingram, DRS Education Chairman.

More information at <http://denverrosesociety.org/education.htm>

GARDEN TOUR—GARDENS REQUEST

Do you have a garden you would like to show in the 2011 EGC Garden Tour? I know some of you have been in previous tours, in fact we saw some great member's gardens on our substitute tour this past June. Your garden needs to be safe to navigate (no

steep stairs, for example) and there needs to be room to park cars. If you would consider offering your garden, please contact one of us.

Barbara Steger 303-674-0357 or

Karen MacFarquhar 303-670-3749

HOSPITALITY BITES

Would the hospitality team for November 2010. Please 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!

2010—2011 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB

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 Dwight Gilliland at (303) 679-1846 or Members@EvergreenGardenClub.org

Newsletter Contributions are due by the 20th of each month to Editor@EvergreenGardenClub.com

Newsletter Editor & Website
www.EvergreenGardenClub.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

2010 Special Events at The Denver Botanical Gardens

Holiday Sale - Friday-Sunday, Nov. 12-14; Preview Party Thursday, Nov. 11, York Street

Blossoms of Light - Dec. 3, 2010 - Jan. 2, 2011, York Street

Trail of Lights - Wednesday-Sunday evenings, Dec. 3, 2010 - Jan. 2, 2011, Chatfield

December 2010 Events at the Center for Arts

Winterfest Arts & Crafts Festival—November 13th from 9am—4pm

Holiday Art Show, November 26th—December 31st

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www.EvergreenGardenClub.org



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