

# The Wild Iris

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE....

**E**vergreen Garden Club Members,  
I hope that all of you have had a great Holiday Season! Even though we've barely had winter yet I'm already in the mood for spring! The garden catalogs started arriving a few days after Christmas and the garden centers are starting to put the new season's seeds on display.

I'm planning on sneaking in some wildflower seed mixes between snows, that way the seeds can decide when it's time to sprout (they're smarter than I am!). Last year's seeds helped to fill in the empty spaces with an ever-changing, colorful show, without exceeding the budget! So this season I'm looking forward to a spectacular performance, both in my own garden and at the Hiwan Victorian garden!

Happy Garden Planning!

Lucy Ginley  
President

## JANUARY 11TH, 2010 MEETING & PROGRAM

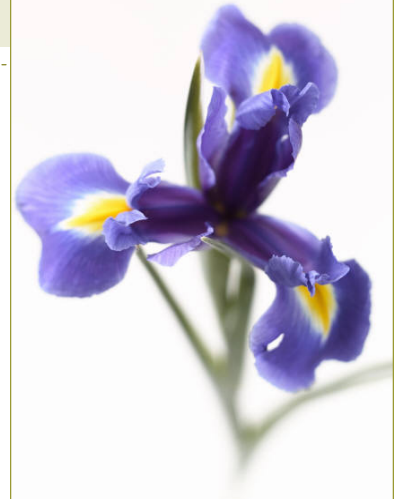
### "Gardening your way Out of the Recession"

Author Bunny Henderson will cover the basics of planning, planting and caring for a vegetable garden. Special focus will be on successfully growing vegetables at high altitude.

(She gardens at 8.500 ft.)

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.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Seed Resources .....	2
Horticulture .....	4
Minutes .....	6
Book Suggestions.....	7
Board Members Contact Info ..	7

### 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 all our New Members!

## DECEMBER/JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

### December

12/13 Marjorie Clinton

12/15 Mary Dickhoff

12/17 Arlene Fitterer

12/19 Jessie Davis

12/22 Irma Wolf

### January

1/2 Ginny Cerrillo

1/16 Lorna Chorn

1/29 Diana Aldridge

1/31 Nancy Latimer



## SEED RESOURCES FOR 2011

**Select Seeds - Antique Flowers** offers gardeners a fabulous selection of unique, high-quality flower seeds and plants, specializing in old-fashioned fragrant varieties, flowering vines, and rare cottage garden annuals.

Website: <http://selectseeds.com/catalog/>

**Western Native Seeds:** specializes in seeds of plants which are native to the Rocky Mountains, western Great Plains, and adjacent areas. Native plants are those which existed in North America prior to European settlement and naturally occur in a given habitat. A species that is native to Colorado may not be native to other western states and may or may not be native to all parts of Colorado.

Website: <http://www.westernnativeseed.com>

**Park Seed:** Since 1868 Park Seed has offered the best annual seeds, perennial seeds and vegetable seeds for American gardens, including the famous Park's Whoppers™.

Website: <http://www.parkseed.com/>

**Wildseed Farms** is the largest working wildflower farm in the U.S. The farm has more than 200 cultivated acres at its Hill Country headquarters. The growing, packing and distribution center in Eagle Lake, Texas, has another 800 acres in production. Wildseed Farms produces 88 varieties of wildflower seeds, which are available individually and as regional mixes, specialty mixes or custom blends.

Website: <http://www.wildseedfarms.com>

**American Meadows:** Has more than 10+ choices of Wildflower seeds for our area. Includes packets of hard to find seeds, organic species, and individual species.

<http://www.americanmeadows.com/wildflower-seeds/western>

**Johnny's Selected Seeds:** Products include vegetable seeds; medicinal and culinary herb seeds; flower seeds; cover crops, farm seed, and pasture mixes; fruit plants and seeds, and high quality, problem-solving tools and supplies. We ship throughout the United States as well as internationally. We carry sizes ranging from small to large to suit the needs of home gardeners and small growers as well as retailers and wholesalers.

Website: <http://www.johnnyseeds.com/>

There are more resources on the Evergreen Garden Club website, [http://evergreengardenclub.org/gardening\\_links.html](http://evergreengardenclub.org/gardening_links.html)

If you know of others let us know and we will add them to the website



## EAS+Y MEETING

**When:** Tues. January 13, 2011 scale  
at the Bergen Park Training  
Center

**Speaker:** A-1 Organics, explaining composting on a large scale  
For more information contact:  
Karla Briggs,  
karla@tuppersteam.com, 303-  
674-3685.

## RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Simply take your bare tree (no tinsel or decorations, no fake trees) to the EDS Transfer Station on Hwy 73 and drop it off for FREE on the following days. Be one of the first to see the new recycling/sorting operation that EDS is installing at the site!

Saturday, Jan 8th between 8 am & 4 pm  
Saturday, Jan 15th between 8 am & 4 pm

Call 303-674-TREE (Lam Tree Service) for info on receiving mulch.

## FOREST HEIGHTS LODGE

On Monday, December 13th, several members of Evergreen Garden Club enjoyed a Christmas Party with the boys of Forest Heights Lodge, which EGC has done for over 30 years.

Forest Heights is a Residential Treatment Center for boys ages 8-14. We bring a plant for each boy and a large cookie for each of them and the staff. Generally, we bring a succulent plant, because shortly after we are there, many of the boys go home for Christmas, so they need a plant that can survive for a while without much care (if any). This year, we brought jade plants and had wonderful discussions about propagation, growing tips, and just the miracle of plants in general. The boys always come up with marvelous questions and comments which is as much fun for us as them.

Several of the boys brought in plants that they had received from the year before. That is always a point of pride for them, and they get an enthusiastic response from us! We got time after the party to share life and plant stories with the boys individually and some of their teachers.

Thank you to those who baked cookies and to Karla Briggs, Beth and Bruce Feldkamp, Lynn Dimmick, and Bev Wickland who got to be with these smart, inquisitive kids. It is a great gift to them, and certainly one to us.

## IS IT A WEED OR A PLANT?

*"When weeding, the best way to make sure you are pulling a weed is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant. If it is almost impossible to pull out, it is a weed. A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except learning how to grow in rows."*

Arlene



## STOP THE JAPANESE BEETLE HOW CAN PROPERTY OWNERS HELP?



Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) is an insect pest that is not native to Colorado and can cause significant damage to landscape plants, turfgrass, and fruit trees.

Originally introduced from Asia to the Eastern U.S. in the early 1900's, the beetle has slowly managed to expand its range westward. Thirty-five states to the east of Colorado are currently considered infested or partially infested with Japanese beetle.

This pest is under quarantine in Colorado. A quarantine is a regulatory activity that limits the transport of goods that spread pests or diseases. The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) in conjunction with the Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association (CNGA) is working diligently to ensure that future introductions of this pest are prevented.

Japanese beetle is most frequently moved from state to state in infested nursery stock and soil.

Currently, all trees, shrubs, sod and ornamental grasses brought

into Colorado from infested states to the east of us, must be certified by the state of origin to be free of Japanese beetle, before they will be allowed into our state. While it is illegal to knowingly move plants and soil infested with Japanese beetle into Colorado, it is also illegal to knowingly move plants and soil infested with Japanese beetle within our state.

### What is a Japanese beetle?



Japanese beetle adults are scarab beetles, approximately, one-half inch long with a metallic green body and copper-colored wings.

There are five distinct tufts of hair along each side of the beetle's abdomen. The larvae are white grubs that reside in the soil. Grubs are about an inch long and lie in a curled position or 'C' shape when at rest.

### What are their favorite plants?

Japanese beetle larvae prefer to feed on the roots of grasses, such as those found in lawns or in ornamental beds. The adult beetle

*(Continued on page 5)*





## JAPANESE BEETLE CONT....

*(Continued from page 4)*

has a wide range of plants it prefers including grapes, roses, hollyhocks, black walnut, apples, crabapples, peach, cherry, plum, lindens, mountain ash and lombardy poplar.

### **How can the beetle be prevented?**

Purchase landscape plants, trees, and turf grass only from nurseries, garden centers and landscape contractors that are registered with the Colorado Department of Agriculture. Registered nurseries and sod farms are inspected and nursery stock is verified to be Japanese beetle free. A list of registered nurseries and landscape contractors can be found on the CDA website: [www.colorado.gov/ag](http://www.colorado.gov/ag). Click on Plant Industry and Nursery program.

### **Quarantine**

Don't bring uninspected plant materials into Colorado from infested states. Don't move plants and soil from your property to other portions of Colorado OR to states west of Colorado. This pest is under quarantine and those that bring uncertified plant material into Colorado are subject to fines.

### **What should one do if they find Japanese Beetle?**



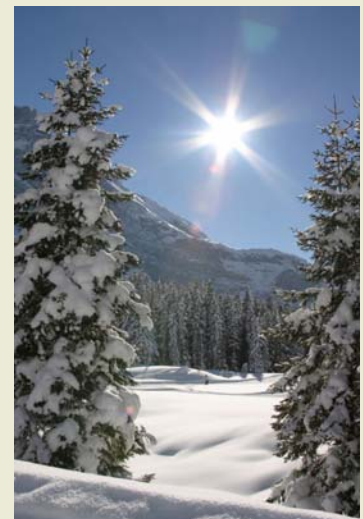
If you suspect Japanese beetle, collect it and contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture or your local Colorado State University Extension office. The insect's identity will be verified.

Follow best management strategies to manage the pest by watering your lawn as little as possible, avoid using plants in the landscape that are favored by the pest, and hire a licensed pesticide applicator, if you consider using a chemical control.

*Article reprinted from Colorado Department of Agriculture website at [Colorado.gov](http://Colorado.gov)*

### **For more information check out**

**[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese\\_Beetle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_Beetle) there are more images and also a list of host plants to check.**



## MINUTES—NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2010

### ***Minutes of the November 2010 Meeting, respectively submitted by Nancy Latimer***

Meeting called to order at 9:40am by Lucy Ginley

Officers in attendance; Lucy Ginley, Diana Aldridge, Dwight Gilliland, Nancy Latimer

Minutes approved from October meeting.

#### **New Business:**

Discussion on December meeting, agreed to potluck, no gifts. ECHO donation to be organized by Bonnie. Members may sell anything they want at this meeting as long as they give 10% back to the club.

#### **Committee Reports:**

World Garden: Need more plants to be donated.

Natural Resources: Karla Briggs spoke about the formation of EASY+ You, a non-profit that organizes and informing small businesses and citizens about green choices available in the Evergreen/Conifer area. Meetings are the last Thursday of the month at the Fire station at 8am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05am.

Program: Holly Berry presentation on how to build your own Fairy Garden.

### ***Minutes of the December 2010 Meeting, respectively submitted by Nancy Latimer***

Meeting called to order at 9:40am by Diana Aldridge

Agenda read: No President's report since Lucy Ginley was absent.

Treasurer's Report by Dwight Gilliland

November Minutes to be approved at next meeting since Wild Iris did not get distributed.

#### **Committee Reports**

Forest Heights Lodge: Peggy Fetchenhier reported about their event with the boys and how they impact the Lodge.

World Gardening: Lucille Nelson read a report of the World's Children International newsletter.

No reports from all other committee's

Ann Hittle introduced our speaker Arlene Fitterer who spoke on gnomes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00am and Christmas brunch followed.

## ARMCHAIR GARDENING—BOOKS

If you are new to the area these are some books that just about every established Evergreen gardener has in their collection.

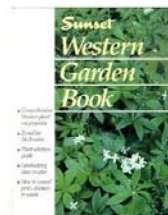
**Rocky Mountain Gardeners Guide** by John Cretti—easy guide book with nice photos and good info. Really like the homemade repellents for everything from ants to deer. Also has a good list of deer proof plants.



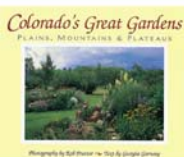
**Durable Plants for the Garden** by Plant Select— this was given to me as a gift and I love this book. Has great photos and info for each plant with both the disadvantages and best features. A must have for anyone planning a garden. Collaborative effort between Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado State University and green industry partners.



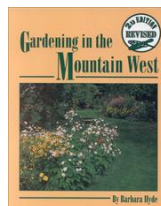
**Sunset Western Garden Book** by Sunset Books— an absolute MUST if you don't buy any other book this is the one. This book does not have any pretty photos of the plants only line drawings but it gives really great information on species of plants. This was and still is my gardening bible for this region.



**Colorado Great Gardens** by Rob Proctor if you are in doubt about how well your garden can look or if you need inspiration this is a beautiful coffee table book with some beautiful gardens in our region. Includes info on how the gardener planned the garden and planted. Will give you some great ideas on what you can do in the Evergreen area.



**Gardening in the Mountain West** by Barbara Hyde a great how too book for the new gardener. Another book in my collection that has lots of notes, tuned corners and grubby pages. Tells you what works, what does not and why. No fancy photos but a great reference book. There is a vol. 1 & 2 and I found I use vol. 1 more than vol 2.



## HOSPITALITY BITES

Would the hospitality team for January 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**

**Jan. 17th**—Free day at Denver Botanic Gardens.

**February 12th-20th** - Colorado Home and Garden Show at the Colorado Convention Center. Tickets \$12 adults, Seniors \$10 visit [www.gardeningcolorado.com](http://www.gardeningcolorado.com) for more info.

**Jan. 8th**—Introduction to Orchids at the Tagawa Garden Center in Aurora, call 303-690-4722 for more info.

**Jan 23rd** - Principles of Xeriscape Part 1—Design with Craig Miller at the Tagawa Garden Center in Aurora, call 303-690-4722 for more info.

For more Colorado gardening classes and events go to:

<http://www.coloradogardening.com/calendar.htm>

**EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB  
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EVERGREEN, COLORADO  
80437**

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



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE