



Evergreen Garden Club

The Wild Iris Volume 18, Issue 12 March 2006

A Word from the Presidents...

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EGC 2005-2006 Board Members Presidents:

Jean Todd
Meredith Bossert

Vice Presidents:

Kathi Grider
Nan Spence

Secretary:

Chris Gray

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 Church of the Hills, Buffalo Park Rd, Evergreen 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

Beth Feldkamp 303-679-9465
brucebethf@comcast.net

Many thanks to Liz Hamilton for revamping our EGC web site. It is attractive and more easily navigated. The links to articles and past newsletters will simply grow more valuable in the years to come. The links to other relevant gardening sites are very helpful and her plans for future material are exciting. Our new web page presents us to the public as a useful and active organization.

Thanks to Mary Kirby, a consulting rosarian, for the Rocky Mountain District of the American Rose Society, for presenting such an interesting program on roses named for celebrities. Who knew? Her own personal experiences were especially valuable. How exciting to know that several roses will thrive here such as Canadian, other shrub, and own-root roses. That is, they will thrive if we can keep the critters from relishing them too.

The hospitality committee gave us such a festive table with the

beautiful Valentine's Day theme carried throughout. Our members continue to bring delicious goodies that tempt us all. Volunteering for the monthly food committee is a fun way to show off our culinary and decorating expertise.

Thank you, Trish, for donating that beautiful Hoya plant for sale to help raise money for our community service projects. Speaking of which, our nine community gardens will be needing work this spring, especially on our traditional clean-up day, May 9. Please think about how you can help and contact Irma Wolf ahead of time. We also need volunteers to help with our Earth Day Booth. Our Plant Sale is coming in June--as your plants come up this spring, think about what you can donate to our sale. Wow! What an active group this is!

Membership Meeting - March 14, 2006 Gardeners Encouraged to go Native!

Irene Shonle, director of the Gilpin County Cooperative Extension Office and the Native Plant Master program, will present Native Plants for Colorado Gardens at the Evergreen Garden Club's monthly meeting March 14. Learn how Colorado's beautiful and beneficial natives are an important part of local gardens and why no garden should be without them. The meeting

begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road, Evergreen. All interested gardeners are invited to attend. Remember to bring your plants & cuttings for the World Gardening Table, and your coffee mug.

See you there!



Garden Club News

.....
• Welcome New Members!!! Kim Stark,
• Barbara Conroy, Stan & Liz Barrett, and Arlene Pellegrino.

Hospitality Committee for March

Tricia Scott
Nancy Elliott

Food Providers

Dickie Langworthy, Linda Ringrose, Beth Feldkamp, Ruth Alford, Marilyn Kaussner

Volunteers Needed For April 22 Earth Day Garden Club Exhibit

We need members to volunteer to plan and participate in our Earth Day display at the 2006 Earth Day Fair which will take place on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at the Evergreen Lake House. The Lake House will be open at 8AM for set up. It will be open to the public at 10AM until 4PM. Breakdown of our display will take place at 4PM and should not run past 4:30PM.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to inform our community about the mission of the Evergreen Garden Club and our involvement in community service through such undertakings as our community gardens, Bootstraps, World Gardening and our commitment to preserving the natural resources of our mountain community. We will also have the opportunity to solicit membership, advertise our upcoming Plant Sale, our 40th anniversary celebration, and to recruit volunteers to assist us in our community garden efforts. Besides working our booth, you will have the opportunity of exploring the many other community exhibits.

We will need two or three volunteers each for the following 2 and a half hour shifts: 9AM-11:30 (includes set up), 11:30AM-2PM, 2PM-4:30PM(includes take down). Please consider volunteering for one (or two) of these shifts.

If you are unable to volunteer for the actual day of the Fair, we can still use you help prior then in the planning of the event and preparation of our exhibit. Please contact Nan Spence, Natural Resources Chair, at 303 674-4596 or nmspence@att.net. if you would like to be a part of the planning and/or working a shift at our display.

Note: World Gardening needs your contributions. It would be very nice to have some St. Patrick's Day & Easter plants too!
 Thank you,
 Louise

Minutes of the February 14, 2006 Meeting

Jean called the meeting to order at 9.36am. By the time our guest speaker for this meeting began her presentation, we had a total of 41 people, members and their guests, in attendance.

Jean thanked the hospitality people for the great job they had done so all present could enjoy delicious food at this Valentine Day meeting.

Liz Hamilton, Past President 1992-1994, and now a web designer, gave members a very informative presentation on the new look for the EGC web site. Liz showed those present how she had reworked the home page thus enabling visitors to the site to now access more info about our club with great ease. Some new features still in the making include a plant directory of plants that grow well at our altitude, a link to outside gardening resources, and a business membership page which will highlight those businesses that support the EGC. Liz reminded everyone that this is an interactive site. Feedback from members is most welcome, indeed, Liz welcomes all comments.

Co president, Jean, then welcomed five guests to our meeting.

- Arlene Pellegrino, a newcomer to the Pine Junction area. Arlene now lives at 8600ft and can use some help with the gardening at this altitude
- Liz and Stan Barrett moved to the Bailey area last August from Lakewood
- Barb Conroy, a resident of the Evergreen area for 20 yrs, and a recent retiree
- Kim Stark, moved from Arvada in October to Evergreen. Kathi Grider had extended Kim an invitation to attend an EGC meeting.

Priscilla gave the treasurer's report:

EGC Checking	\$202.09
EGC Savings	\$7,215.71
Total Bank Accounts	\$7,417.80

Chris Gray gave the secretary's report. Two thank you letters from World Gardening recipients had been received. A motion to accept the minutes for the January meeting was made. The minutes were accepted as written.

Jean informed everyone Trish Scott had sent a heart shaped Hoya plant for sale by silent auction. Petals on the Parkway had donated this beautiful plant. All proceeds go to the EGC.

Co vice president, Nan Spence, gave a presentation on the pros and cons of a move for the EGC to the new Fire and Rescue building for future meetings beginning in the fall '06.

Pros:

- One level – no stairs for people to navigate
- Room has a media system - most guest speakers require a power point projector
- No fee or donation for the EGC for use of the room and the kitchen.

Tables and chairs will be in place for meetings

Cons:

- Room at Church of the Hills (COTH) has a history for some EGC members. COTH is closer for people who live south. A move to the new facility would require another 10 mins in driving time for those people.

Nan also explained how the Fire and Rescue personnel were willing to allow EGC the use of their meeting room and kitchen for monthly general meetings and board meetings in exchange for EGC members maintaining a small fire wise garden on their property. This spring the garden is scheduled to be landscaped. A watering system is still being investigated. EGC will have input into the plants selected for the garden, and if EGC takes on this project, a sign will inform people that the

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Over The Garden Fence *By Julaine Kennedy*

Easter Lilies prefer cool daytime temperatures (60-65 degrees) and night temperature about 10 degrees cooler. Keep it out of drafts or where it will be exposed to dry air or heat, ex: Fireplace or heat ducts. They like sunlight but at our elevation they will quickly wilt and fade if they are in a hot south to west window where trees or overhang do not provide some shade. To prevent leaning toward the light simply turn your plant a couple times a week. Keep evenly moist and be sure that the foiled pot has drainage holes. Remove standing water from the tray each time you water. Remove faded flowers promptly to prevent the plant from seeding. This will allow the plant to conserve energy for next year's flowering. Most of the holiday greenhouse grown plants are good for one season.

I have had luck with an Easter Lily blooming the second year. Transplant it to a protected area soon after blooming ceases. Feed it bone meal and mulch the plant for the winter.

Paperwhites, tulips and daffodils are short-lived bulbs when forced into bloom. Common practice is to discard them after they have bloomed.



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garden is maintained by club members. On the subject of storage, Nan informed those at the meeting that the storage area at the new facility would be similar in size to what is currently available for club use at COTH. Much discussion then took place as to whether the EGC should or should not move, and whether the club members wanted to take on another community garden project. A motion was finally made for a vote by a show of hands. Jean informed those present that only EGC members were eligible to vote. The results of the vote were as follows:

- Those in favor - 32
- Those against - 1
- Abstentions - 1

The motion passed and the EGC will be in their new facility at the Fire and Rescue Building for the September 2006 meeting. Nan stated that she would draft a letter of agreement, have the EGC board preview the letter, and subsequently take the letter to the Fire and Rescue personnel to look over and sign.

World Gardening: Louise Mounsey reminded those present that there were many good items on the World Gardening table. Louise encouraged all to take time at the break to look at the items available for purchase.

Jean thanked Linda Ringrose for helping with photos of the community gardens. These photos will be on display at the EGC booth on Earth Day.

Door prizes were then given and the meeting was adjourned. Those present then enjoyed delicious refreshments and some social time.

A wonderful program presented by Mary Kirby then followed. Mary is a consulting rosarian for the Rock Mountain District of the American Rose Society and a Master Gardener with Jefferson County. Mary's topic was Celebrity Roses and the effect roses have, and have had on our society.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Gray, Secretary.

HORTICULTURE

WINTER LANDSCAPEING

By Priscilla Chapin

A blanket of snow can transform your garden, literally overnight, from a bleak winter scene to a sparkling, magical tableau. We gardeners have an abundance of showy summer performers at our disposal. But it's in winter that we have the real star player. For what other garden transformation is so immediate, so spectacular, and so magnificent as snow? It is as though a sorcerer has cast his finest spell while we were sleeping. Drabness is swallowed whole, colors and shapes deliciously sharpened. And those exquisite, long shadows make a play of vertical and horizontal planes. Suddenly, all our senses and spirits are engaged.

The trick is to make the most of the show when it hits; to incorporate features that help us over the cold hump of winter, capitalizing, instead, on its finest gift. If we create structure, we provide the framework for snow, hoar frosts and slanting light to weave their wizardry.

Since the garden covered in snow will more likely be viewed from inside the house than out, it follows that the launch point could begin by looking outwards from all windows. As you look out at the snow cover think aspects and heights; trees and topiary, sculpture and statuary, pots and pergolas to paint a winter scene. This is when you see the bare bones, the skeleton of your landscaping design. This is the time to plan changes and redesign.

It may start with smallest of changes, simply by resisting the temptation to over tidy the perennials beds, leaving instead a few well chosen, graphic seed heads or tall grasses to add interest. Consider, too, the large, spiky perennials, all chunky and humorous in the winter landscape, such as yucca, which cradles great wedges of snow like scoops of ice-cream.

As for trees, all are magnificent, but some excel under a cover of snow, their branches covered with a layer of glistening snow showing off their intricate shape and form. Evergreens either left like Mother Nature sculpted them or shaped and molded as we please, they become more dramatic when covered with snow. Shrubs like the lilac pictured below are beautiful frosted with snow against our beautiful Colorado blue skies.

There is always the possibility of building our own structures. Rose arches or pillars and rope swags to form long, showy ropes of snow, creating interest when they are not covered with plants. Likewise, openwork gateways and arbors will filter the winter light, throwing complex shadows and shapes onto the snow carpeted ground. Statues and urns, simple chairs and benches, driftwood, well placed boulders will all capture a fresh fall in their own personal fashion, fluffing it up into plump cushions to attract our eye and hold it just a while longer.

It takes so little to create a wonderful winter garden – a smidgen of imagination, and you can choreograph your own show. So after the next snowfall or frosty morning look at your landscape and see what you have created. Is there a spot that could use some interest - a tree, a bush, some tall grasses, and a sitting bench? Now is the time to light the fire, pore over our seed catalogue and make a plan. And pray for snow.



GARDEN CLUB BUSINESS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

EVERGREEN WILD BIRD STORE

32156 Castle Court
303 679-2786
Evergreen, CO

Evergreen Wild Bird Store is pleased to announce our 2006 Customer Programs!

1. Evergreen Garden Club Savings Day:

10% off any item in our store every Wednesday through 2006! This offer includes any regularly priced item and is not to be combined with other offers.

2. Seed Saver Club: Save 15% on bird seed year round. Once your seed purchases total 9

bags (any type- 20 lbs or larger), you are credited 15% on your total seed purchases. This store credit can be used to purchase any item in our store!

3. Project Feeder Watch: We will be sponsoring four area elementary schools (private, charter or public) in the Cornell University program, "Project Feeder Watch," in 2006. The Montessori School of Evergreen took advantage of this sponsorship last fall and the program has been very enthusiastically endorsed by teacher, Laurel Knox. She has even offered to speak to other schools about the program's value! You can read more about this program in February & May's Colorado Serenity issues.

The program runs November – May each year. The deadline for consideration for 2006 is Sept. 15th. Interested teachers should call or stop by our store and ask for John.

4. Senior Tuesdays: Anyone aged 65 and older can save 10% on any regularly priced item every Tuesday! This offer is also open to Senior Life Care Centers, or the families/volunteers caring for senior patients. This offer is not to be combined with other offers.

5. Lifestyle Ordering: Work down the hill or otherwise in a rush? Call in your seed/suet order and we'll have it waiting for you to pick up. Credit card orders can be placed by phone through 5:30pm. We'll even stay open late (through 6:30pm) to wait for your arrival! Call us today for your seed or suet needs.



GARDEN CLUB BUSINESS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**EVERGREEN GARDEN CENTER**

Evergreen Garden Center opened in the Spring 2005 at the old Evergreen Nursery location. With a mix of old and new faces at the center, our mission is to provide our mountain community with knowledgeable advice, quality products in a unique environment. We are committed to giving back to the community and are involved with many different organizations actively via fundraisers.



Evergreen Garden Center offers the finest in annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs, beautiful hanging baskets, imported pottery, wildflower seed and grass seed, deer/elk deterrents, soils, landscape materials, tropical plants, unique gifts, holiday events and shopping, annual Christmas events such as the carriage rides during the holidays.

Evergreen Garden Center also offers classes/seminars on gardening and advice for the do it yourselfers as well as design/build services for all your landscape needs.

Our bulk yard carries everything you need from soils, flagstone, boulders, sand and gravel, weed barrier, decorative landscape rock and yes, WE DELIVER.

Our landscape design/build department is ready to assist you with all landscape projects. From new construction to complete renovations, gardens, tree planting, you name it we are here to help. We have the personnel and equipment to handle all your landscape needs from grading, hauling, tree removal, drainage, masonry, patios, irrigation installation and repairs. Give us a call today, 303-674-2146 garden center/303-674-7160 design/build and bulk materials, or visit our web site www.evergarden.net
Garden Center location 26479 Highway 74 in Kittredge and the bulk yard 26045 Columbine Trail in Kittredge (off Meyers Gulch and HWY 74)

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



*Celebrating our
40th Anniversary*

Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events

www.denverbotanicgardens.org

Denver Orchid Society

Contact: Howard Zoufaly, 303-465-1166
Show or Sale Dates: March 11 - 12, 2005
Mitchell Hall

Rocky Mountain African Violet Council

Contact: Allison Brigham, 303-216-9232
Show or Sale Date: April 1 - 2, 2006
1 - 4:30 p.m. (1st), 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (2nd)
Mitchell Hall