



Evergreen Garden Club

WILD IRIS



FEBRUARY 2022



NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 8, 2022
MEETING WILL BE HELD
VIA ZOOM!
WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR
DETAILS AND THE LINK

February's Program
The Zen of Gardening
By
Dave Wann, Co-Author

**January 11, 2022
Evergreen Garden Club
General Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President Cherie Luke at 9:30 via Zoom. Board members present were Hannah Hayes, Vice President; Helen McLeman, Treasurer; Julie Ann Courim, Technology Officer and Janet Gluskoter, Secretary. Not in attendance: Kim Gustafson, 2nd Vice President.

President's Report - Cherie announced that the EChO donation from our holiday party was 182 lbs. We had 26 members in attendance. We will determine whether to have the next meeting in person or on Zoom at a later date. Jan Parks will contact Church of the Hills and hold a room for us. We acknowledged all January birthdays and wished them well.

Secretary's Report - There were no December general meeting minutes due to the holiday party.

Treasurer's Report - Helen stated that she budgeted \$150.00 for the Holiday party but we only spent \$123.00. Updates were made to our account with Amazon Smile. Helen reminded everyone to use it to help contribute to EGC when making your Amazon purchases.

Vice President's Report - Hannah welcomed new member Ann Rovin. Hannah announced that our Beekeeper speaker will present in April and today's speaker will be our wonderful garden leaders and their favorite flower/plant. Next month's speaker will be Dave Wann on the Zen of Gardening.

2nd Vice President's Report - No report.

Technology Officer's Report - Julie Ann stated that all new members were added to the directory as well as the online Google docs file. Currently we have 13 business members and 75 regular members.

Committee Reports

Public Gardens Coordinator Annell Hoy - Annell stated that all is quiet for now. The Dam Garden is in need of an assistant lead.

Garden Tour Coordinator Louise Heern - Louise stated that she still needs one more garden for the tour and would like to place an ad in the local Serenity magazine as well as asking members via email and the Wild Iris. Directional signs will be handled by Annell's husband as he has done for us in the past. Julie Ann will help with the printing of maps.

**January 11, 2022
Evergreen Garden Club
General Meeting (Continued)**

Guest Speaker - Garden Leaders Share their Favorite Plant

Evergreen Metro District Bldg; Stagecoach Helen McLeman - Meadow Rue

US Post Office Louise Heern - Gaura (Whirling Butterflies)

Hiwan Homestead Museum - Victorian Garden Cherie Luke - Allium

Homestead Museum - Herb Garden Cindy Gibson - Lavender Hiwan

Homestead Museum - Flowers for a Friend Pam Hinish - Snow-in-Summer / Basket-of-Gold

Evergreen Metro Water District- Dam Annell Hoy - Blanket Flower (Gaillardia)

Evergreen Fire Training Center Jan Parks - Prairie Coneflower (Mexican Hat)

Bergen Park Traffic Circle Dee Sacks - Mt. Atlas Fescue (Festuca Mairei)

Evergreen Public Library Janet Gluskoter - Lupine

**Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Gluskoter
Secretary Evergreen Garden Club**



EGC JANUARY PRESENTATION

What a gift to look at our beautiful community gardens in full bloom in the dead of winter!

January's monthly meeting was delightful! The meeting was held through Zoom and each of our Community Garden Leaders took a turn walking us through a favorite plant or two from the gardens they and their teams oversee; sharing photos, growing tips and useful information we can all apply to our own gardens.



Columbine meadow rue (*T. aquilegifolium*)
Helen McLeman taught us all about the Meadow Rue thriving in the **Water Dist Garden**



Looking for an annual that will fill in a bare spot in one short Evergreen summer? **Louise Heern** shared how the annual **Gaura/Whirling Butterflies** took over the hell strip along the sidewalk at the **Post Office Garden**.





Cherie Luke shared how **Aliums** (*Allium* spp.) will take center stage in the **Victorian Garden** at **Hiwan Museum**.



Lavender (*Lavendula angustifolia*) is thriving in the **Herb Garden** at the **Hiwan Museum**. **Cindy Gibson** taught us about all the different varieties that grow best in Colorado.



Annell Hoy taught us all about the native **Yellow Gaillardia** (*Gaillardia aristate*); her favorite thriving at the **Dam Garden**.





Snow in Summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*).



Pam Hinish has three favorites growing in **The Flowers for a Friend Garden** at the Hiwan Museum.



Tufted Evening Primrose (*Oenothera caespitosa*).



Basket of Gold (*Aurinia saxatilis*).



Janet Gluskoter shared her secrets about **Lupine** (*Lupinus x hybrida*) who is stealing the show at the Evergreen Library Garden.





Jan Parker shared information on growing the native *Ratibida columnifera*, one of her favorites growing in the **Bergen Fire Training Center Garden**.



Dee Sacks says **Atlas Fescue** (*Festuca mairei*) and **Blonde Ambition** (*Bouteloua gracilis*) grasses are her favorites because they keep the **Bergen Traffic Circle Garden** beautiful through all four seasons!



If you would like to volunteer to help at any of our community gardens, please contact Garden Volunteer Coordinator Annell Hoy at annell517@yahoo.com

Natural Resources
Hannah Hayes

Nature's Best Hope

Mr. Allen's fifth grade class was hatching a cocoon in an aquarium. When the class returned from an assembly it had opened and there were caterpillars all over the classroom. Hundreds of them! I remember my giant six-foot-plus teacher coming over to where I was cowering in the corner and smashing one with his huge foot right in front of me. It gave me willies that were hard to shake until I learned more about these critters and how essential they are to our ecosystem.

I was able to hear Doug Tallamy speak via Zoom the other day. This author and environmentalist speaks so engagingly about how to increase biodiversity to rebuild and restore our planet. Turns out we need to landscape for caterpillars to fix our "nature deficit disorder." More information can be found at HomegrownNationalPark.org.

Doug's prescription is to 1) shrink the lawn (it's dead space) 2) use keystone plants (discoverable at nwf.org/nativeplantfinder) 3) decrease light pollution (use yellow led if you must have nighttime lighting) and 4) stop using insecticides (to allow caterpillars to complete their development).

The importance of layered landscapes cannot be overstated. Ground covers under trees will provide a soft landing for these all important caterpillars. Plant choice matters in helping our declining bird population. Just a few that were rattled off by Doug's encyclopedic brain are: milkweed, meadow rue, goldenrod, hackberry, Virginia creeper, etc. Bringing in oak trees will yield a variety of moths. Another valuable web site is bonap.org (Biota of North America Program). It will help identify natives.

We are learning that Nature is not optional. We have fragmented the earth and we just can't glue it back together. This means that everybody must participate, not just the specialists. When Mr. Tallamy was asked about dandelions and clover, his reply was, "Better than nothing." Time to think carefully about the understory while we're dreaming of the days when we'll be back in our gardens.



Romance *in* Bloom

A dozen roses are a classic expression of love on Valentine's Day. But wouldn't forget-me-nots tucked into a nest of love-in-a-mist say more?

LOVE-IN-A-MIST

Most often, romantic names have been bestowed on plants because some part is heart-shaped. But that's not the case with *Nigella damascena*, love-in-a-mist. Instead, the blossoms are surrounded by a nest of lacy, thread-thin leaves that form a mist (and let's face it, mists in themselves are romantic). The flowers are white, pink, or blue and star-shaped; blowfishlike seed heads prolong the charm. Plus, in ancient Egyptian times, the seeds were advertised as producing a certain plumpness that was fashionable in antiquity.

Some admirers liked the double version of the flowers already on the scene when the early herbals—books describing plants for medicinal purposes—were written in the late 16th century; others preferred the simple singles. But no one really knows when the name love-in-a-mist became affixed. When the herbals were written, nigella was love-entangle or, less poetically, devil-in-the-bush and St. Katherine's flower. But due to the newer nickname's descriptive charm, it has stuck throughout the centuries.

Note: When scanning and inserting an article into PDF form, some of the clarity is lost. For easier reading you can enlarge the article by adjusting the 'view' tab at the top of your screen.

GARDENS HAVE ALWAYS inspired passion, with idyllic scenes and secluded spots where trysts might transpire. So it was only natural that the garden would become populated with the sort of characters who would further matters of the heart. What could be more romantic than being caressed on the forehead by kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate before skipping lightly over tickle-my-fancy?

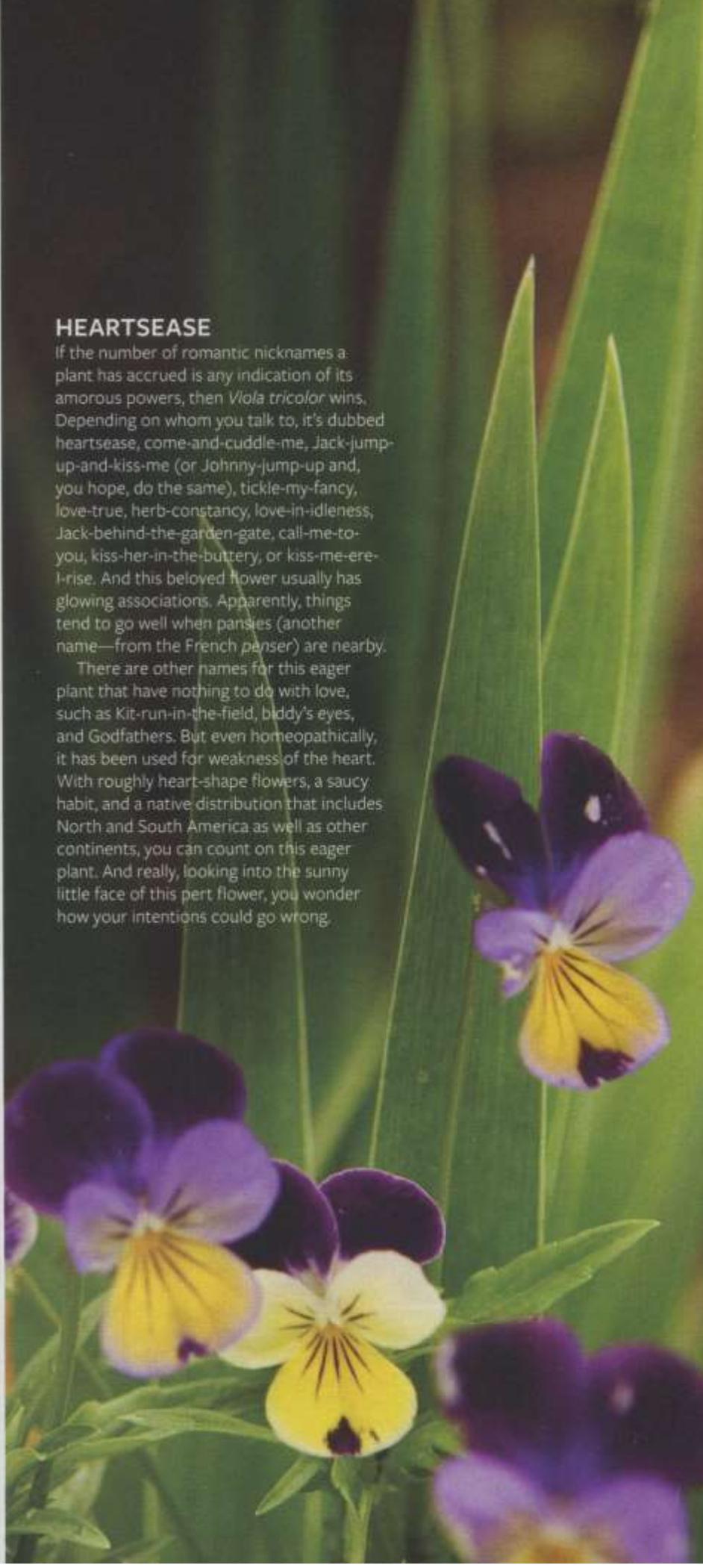
Think of the fistfuls of flowers that serve as testimonies of devotion when tongues are tied. Remember golden afternoons spent flirtatiously gamboling through fields with a certain someone. Think of the bouquets carried to the altar in a hand that will soon gain a ring. Not surprisingly, many folklore-rich plants with deep roots have earned lusty names. Some of these denote yearning: love-ache (*Levisticum*) and bleeding heart (*Dicentra*). Others suggest disappointment—cast-me-down (*Lavandula*) and love-lies-bleeding (*Amaranthus*). But most often, flowers capture the sheer rapture of infatuation and all that follows. Come-and-cuddle-me (*Viola tricolor*) and kiss-me-quick-and-go (*Artemisia arbotanum*) say it all. Before you dismiss the powers of a nickname, consider how many romances have been ignited when the last petal on a daisy predicted “he loves me.”

Next time you go into a garden with someone special, rally your allies—and there are many. If you can get love’s laces (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and love-in-a-puff (*Cardiospermum halicacabum*) working for you, well, there just might be a happy ending for your loudly beating heart. But heed this warning: On the other side of the fence, cupid’s dart (*Catananche*) and love entangle (*Nigella*) wait in ambush. Enter at your own risk.

HEARTSEASE

If the number of romantic nicknames a plant has accrued is any indication of its amorous powers, then *Viola tricolor* wins. Depending on whom you talk to, it’s dubbed heartsease, come-and-cuddle-me, Jack-jump-up-and-kiss-me (or Johnny-jump-up and, you hope, do the same), tickle-my-fancy, love-true, herb-constancy, love-in-idleness, Jack-behind-the-garden-gate, call-me-to-you, kiss-her-in-the-buttery, or kiss-me-ere-I-rise. And this beloved flower usually has glowing associations. Apparently, things tend to go well when pansies (another name—from the French *penser*) are nearby.

There are other names for this eager plant that have nothing to do with love, such as Kit-run-in-the-field, biddy’s eyes, and Godfathers. But even homeopathically, it has been used for weakness of the heart. With roughly heart-shape flowers, a saucy habit, and a native distribution that includes North and South America as well as other continents, you can count on this eager plant. And really, looking into the sunny little face of this pert flower, you wonder how your intentions could go wrong.





FORGET-ME-NOT

Not all romantic flowers have happy endings. Consider the forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica*), for example. The most oft-recounted legend connected with this moisture-loving groundcover tells how a hapless (and clumsy) suitor was gathering a nosegay of the comely sky-blue flowers by river's edge for his lover, only to fall into the rapidly flowing water and be swept away—but not before shouting, "Forget me not!" The year of the tale was approximately 1800, but the name already had a long history. Some legends have *Myosotis* gaining its designation in Eden when Adam forgot to assign the shy little plant a name and made amends by dubbing it forget-me-not. Actually, more than one flower has earned the nickname over the centuries. But most accounts assume that *Myosotis* was the forget-me-not Henry IV took as his emblem. Not only did the king have the flowers

embroidered on his robes, but his patrons wore the flowers to show their support.

Forget-me-not's influence spans the globe. In Persia, the flower is linked to an angel who fell in love with one of the living after watching her weave forget-me-nots into her tresses. His punishment was to wander the globe with the maiden, planting forget-me-nots. When finished with that inconceivable task, the couple was welcomed into heaven together, while the cherished blue-blossom flower settled in comfortably throughout the earth.

The forget-me-not tradition continues. Bunches of *Myosotis* began appearing in European markets by the 1850s—peddled to any hopeful who might want to remind someone of his presence. Fast-forward to the present and Valentine's Day, when forget-me-nots say what so many tongue-tied admirers cannot express.



LOVAGE

Some romantic names are shrouded in mystery. That would be the case for lovage, *Levisticum officinale*. Although Mrs. M. Grieve wrote in *A Modern Herbal* (first published in 1931) that “no myths or legends are connected with it,” there is the name—lovage—to kindle curiosity. Lovage is derived from love-ache, ache being a medieval name for its relative, parsley, which the plant resembles. The Czechs call it libeček, and in Poland it is known as lubczyk; both translate as love herb.

There’s a lot to like about lovage. Although it is not a particularly stunning plant, it is perennial—unlike most of its annual and biennial kin such as dill, parsley, and carrots. And it can reach impressive heights—reputedly topping off at 10 feet, which would read like a 10-foot-tall celery from a distance. The fragrance is also akin to celery with a hint of anise tossed in. At one time lovage was made into cordials and teas as well as purportedly possessing many medicinal attributes.



KISS-ME-OVER-THE-GARDEN-GATE

Generally, romantic names are based on a plant’s physical characteristics. But sometimes you have to see a plant such as kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate (*Polygonum orientale*) in action to understand how it earned its name. If you have never been tickled by the dangling catkins of *Polygonum orientale* as you walked through a garden, then you might be mystified as to how this stretchy Asian and Australian native (naturalized in North America) happened upon its title. Also called lady’s fingers because of its catkins, *P. orientale* stands 6–10 feet tall with arching stems that support a shower of nodding blush-pink blossoms. Also known as ragged sailor and prince’s feather, the plant seeds itself promiscuously. And it doesn’t confine its performance to the garden—kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate is fully capable of romping into a field. Indeed, the 1904 edition of *Henderson’s Handbook of Plants* sniffed that polygonums “may be properly classed as weeds.” Maybe so, but if a garden offers a sensual experience, kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate is among the pleasures available. If you love plants, it is certainly romantic to be caressed by a catkin.



LOVE-IN-A-PUFF

Sometimes you have to explore a little deeper to discover how a plant earned its name. That's the case with love-in-a-puff (*Cardiospermum*). Introduced in 1504 from India (where it is considered sacred, according to Henderson's Handbook of Plants), the minute white flowers of *Cardiospermum* weren't sufficient to win this wayward vine any sort of romantic connotation. But wonderful celery-green Chinese lanternlike seed capsules follow closely on the heels of flowers. And inside those inflated seedpods sits a trio of pealike seeds. Each matte-black seed is marked with a distinct creamy-white heart. Which goes to show you; Even within the most modest wrapping beats a strong heart.



HE-LOVES-ME

Who hasn't consulted a daisy to ascertain whether "he loves me" or "he loves me not"? Plucking out the final petal supposedly reveals the feelings of the intended. Daisies are also called Marguerites because the name means pearl in Greek and French, but also in tribute to the many saints and queens who took the flower as their emblem, embroidering it on their robes. The Welsh call daisies trembling stars, the French refer to them as little Easter flowers, and the Germans address them as little goose flowers, a-thousand-charms, meadow pearls, and measure of love—the final name referring to the plant's revelatory powers. Much less lyrically, we call the flowers ox-eye daisies or dog daisies.

Signifying innocence in the language of flowers, daisies are nonetheless apt to seed themselves generously and are considered somewhat of a nuisance as a result. But think of it this way: Lovelorn maidens can find plenty of fodder to consult when they have "given their hearts, without knowing whether they are to get them back again," as Charles M. Skinner put it in *Myths and Legends of Flowers, Trees, Fruits, and Plants*. These maidens also might weave crowns of daisy flowers, especially for May Day celebrations. But those daisy wreaths could send a mixed message. A few centuries ago, donning a daisy wreath signified that the wearer was unsure of her mind and pondering whether to accept or reject a suitor. It is the perfect flower for anyone frozen in a state of flux.

BRIDE'S TEARS

Antigonon leptopus is called chain of love, hearts on a chain, and the love vine because of its series of pink, heart-shaped flowers that hang on threads amid roughly heart-shaped foliage. However, this rambunctious Mexican native is also called bride's tears, as well as the less contentious coral creeper and confederate vine. Even more dicey is the botanical name: Antigone was the daughter of the fabled King Oedipus and his mother, Jocasta—an incestuous union that led to disaster. In Sophocles' tale, Antigone's brothers were left to take turns serving as king after their father's passing. The whole unfortunate story that followed could be summarized as tragedy and more tragedy with almost nobody left standing. If that weren't baggage enough, the name Antigone is occasionally defined as "against men" because the character in question defied masculine authority along the road to securing her own demise. (Just in case you were thinking of giving this vine for Mother's Day—don't. The name is also translated as "opposed to motherhood.") And the fact that *Antigonon leptopus* is considered invasive in its Zone 10 range (the plant was once used to quickly camouflage potential bombing targets during World War II) is yet another reason to be wary—and proof again that you have to be careful where amour is concerned. After all, we don't want anyone to end up as bleeding hearts.





^ LOVE-LIES-BLEEDING

There are many amaranths, including varieties grown as grain crops, but no other has the drama of *Amaranthus caudatus*, love-lies-bleeding. With sturdy stems of long green leaves topped by even longer tassels of magenta (or blood red, depending on your imagination) chenillelike blossoms that dangle down luridly, *A. caudatus* was called the Great Purple Flower-Gentle by 16th-century herbalists. But by 1665, some observers had reportedly bestowed the more descriptive name of love-lies-bleeding. Even then, flower chains that formed 2-foot-long tassels to drape theatrically on the ground were common. Even though some varieties stand accused of scattering themselves as weeds no matter how poor the soil, Victorians doted on amaranths, especially in their ribbon borders and Victorian circles. As *Henderson's Handbook of Plants* billed them, they are "of an extremely graceful and interesting character, producing a striking effect." But if you're thinking of sending someone a big, voluptuous arrangement of love-lies-bleeding to spark romance, you might want to think twice. In the language of flowers, love-lies-bleeding says "hopeless, not heartless." Gulp.



^ LOVEGRASS

Sometimes a romantic association merely hinges on the translation of a name. That seems to be the case with lovegrass, *Eragrostis* spp. The name derives from the Greek *eros*, or love, and the plant was named in 1776 by Nathaniel Wolf, who never explained why he was infatuated by it. This ornamental grass is dashingly good-looking, so that's a start. All *Eragrostis* are called lovegrasses, with *E. spectabilis*, purple lovegrass, being the most popular for good reason. When it forms flowers, its panicles blush deep burgundy (OK, purple), forming a red haze. It's a heady effect that's sure to start anyone's heart palpitating.



^ CUPID'S DART

Guard your heart when this little flower is around. Some say the name cupid's dart was given to *Catananche caerulea* because the leaves are arrow-shaped and barbed. Others claim the plant was (more perilously) made into love potions. And then there's the botanical name—*Catananche*—which translates as "to compel" from Greek. All things considered, it's a flower to be wary of.

Apparently, cupid's dart has been menacing reluctant lovers for a long time. Native to southwestern Europe, early herbalists of the 16th century took it into their gardens, where it was known as buck's horn welde. In the 1700s, it answered to "perennial candy lion's foot" and did not acquire the common name cupid's dart until later. Whatever its name, this plant has been working its mischief for a while, because Pliny the Elder (A.D. 23–A.D. 79) mentioned that it was fully capable of gripping the affections of females. Perhaps that is partly because the comely blue blossoms are so attractive.



Pot Up Some Romance

Sometimes Cupid needs a nudge—and sometimes flowers do, too. Did you know you could coax bleeding hearts to bloom for Valentine's Day? We used *Dicentra spectabilis* 'Valentine', not only because the name fit, but also because of the strength of its throbbing-red rather than pink hearts. Might as well declare your message unequivocally, right? Here's the formula:

1. In mid-January, send for a dormant bleeding-heart plant by mail order, get it from a nursery, or—if the ground is thawed—dig it from the garden, taking care not to break the fleshy roots. (Wear gloves; some people get a skin irritation.)

2. Transplant the fleshy roots by laying them horizontally at least an inch below soil level in a container that will make the plant shine. Select a wide pot with plenty of room to stretch out the long, thin roots, and transplant them gingerly—they break easily.

3. Place the pot in a warm, sunny window, and begin watering it lightly until sprouts pop up.

4. When new growth begins, give the plant additional water and as much sun as possible to encourage bright-red blossoms. Keep the plant away from children and pets—bleeding heart is poisonous.

5. If all goes well, by Valentine's Day, your bleeding heart should be in bud or blossom and ready to wow your special someone.

BLEEDING HEART

Don't search through ancient herbals for descriptions of bleeding hearts (*Dicentra spectabilis*), because this melodramatic spring bloomer is relatively new on the gardening scene, introduced from China by British plant explorer Robert Fortune in 1810. It did not enjoy beginner's luck in its new home; the generally stalwart plant initially perished, requiring reintroduction in 1846. At the height of the Victorian Era, bleeding hearts caught on with gardeners and nestled in with other cottage garden indispensables. So omnipresent were bleeding hearts that Victorian garden writers snickered about how "common" the graceful arching stems had become. But can you blame gardeners for adopting them? Bleeding hearts speak to everything the theatrical Victorians held dear. When the snow has barely melted, they swing into action, sending up lacy leaves crowned by arching stems of pink heart-shape flowers that part in the middle to drip tiny sparkling white "tears" from each dangling blossom. Not only did bleeding hearts quickly become trendy in the garden, but there was also major bleeding-heart rampage in interior décor motifs. By the end of the 19th century, bleeding heart-patterned wallpaper became highly popular. Although nobody wants to be a bleeding heart, everyone can empathize. And *Dicentra spectabilis* does its swan song gracefully.





Registration for the 2022 Landscaping With Colorado Native Plants Conference is now OPEN

REGISTER HERE NOW!

[2022 Landscaping with Colorado Native Plants Conference - February 26, 2022 \(pheedloop.com\)](https://pheedloop.com)

Once again, the conference is entirely virtual and will be held on February 26, 2022. Registrants will be able to access the platform ahead of the conference to refamiliarize themselves with it.

Highlights include:

- Keynote speaker, Doug Tallamy
- On-demand videos from our native plant garden grant recipients available for viewing on February 25th.
- Experts in the field of native plants of Colorado will take stage on February 26th.



THE EGC GARDEN TOUR IS COMING UP THIS SUMMER
JULY 16, 2022 AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR ONE MORE GARDEN!

DO YOU HAVE OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THEIR MOUNTAIN GARDEN?
IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT GARDEN TOUR CHAIR
louiseheern@gmail.com or call 303-567-2217

The EGC Garden Tour Committee is getting ready
to nail down the details for this year's Garden Tour.

As you may or may not know, this is EGC's major fundraising event and the
proceeds keep our beautiful community gardens blooming all summer long, year after year.
This is the most visible manifestation of EGC and a much-appreciated
contribution to the beauty of our Evergreen community.

Each member is encouraged to help with this fun and important fundraising event for the club.

Please take a moment to read through the various committee actions/responsibilities
on the pages below, and if you have not already done so, consider helping
with one of the committees or wherever needed as things progress. Thank you!!!

Please contact Chairperson Louise Heern
louiseheern@gmail.com or call 303-567-2217 for details

GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEES



PRINTED MATERIALS

This committee will design "Save the Date" flyers, Tickets and Posters. Documents need to be proofed by the tour coordinators. Obtain quotes for printing of each and discuss with the coordinators before sending to the printer. The Chair of the committee should be familiar with Word, Publisher or other programs used to create such documents. Signs may also be needed in individual gardens for directional and parking purposes and to identify plants. Samples of all printed materials are available.

PUBLICITY

This committee shall write and submit articles for release to local newspapers and other publications, be responsible for the distribution of "Save the Date" flyers and posters to local businesses and put up and take down three tour banners. The banners need to be taken to Zuni Signs for a date change.

TICKET SALES

This committee has a chair but needs additional help to arrange for local businesses to sell Garden Tour tickets. Money from ticket sales needs to be periodically collected and given to the Treasurer. A record shall be kept of tickets given and money collected. Receipts should be given to the businesses when money is collected. The day of the tour, each garden needs tickets to sell. This should be arranged with the Docent Chair.

DIRECTIONAL AND PARKING SIGNS

This committee needs to drive the routes to each garden and determine the placement of directional signs and the need for parking signs. The directional signs need to be in place by 8:30 AM the day of the tour and picked up by 4 PM the day of the tour. Parking signs should be delivered the day before the tour and placed by the head docent of each garden.



GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEES (Continued)

DOCENT

A “head” docent needs to be assigned to each garden. This docent shall be at the garden the whole day and will inform other docents of their tasks. Other docents normally volunteer for a half day, though in the past we have needed some to do the whole day. The Chair of this committee needs to coordinate the docents plus the volunteers for parking cars. All docents and other volunteers working on the tour will be able to tour all the gardens at no cost prior to the event. The date for this pre-tour is arranged by the Tour Coordinators and usually takes place about one week before the tour. The chairperson prepares docent packages including membership forms, brochures, change, tour tickets, “tickets” for door prizes if needed and plant lists.

ARTISTS

A chairperson is needed to arrange for one artist in each garden. They are encouraged to be creating and selling their art in the gardens, giving EGC 10% of their sales.

PLANT SALE/VENDORS

At the 2013 Tour we asked a retail garden center to sell plants at one of the gardens. The plants sold were chosen by us and the individual plants marked as “for sale” at the XXX’s garden. The retail garden center gave us 10% of sales. Other retailers sold garden related items at another garden and also gave us 10% of their sales.

PLANT IDENTIFICATION

One person is needed for each garden. With the garden host, the volunteer identifies the plants in the garden. A list is compiled for each garden, printed and made available for the docent package. Not every plant is identified. The host’s three favorite plants should be noted and passed along to the Printed Materials committee for use in the ticket.





Creating a more 'Care-Free' Garden with Conifer beds

ICE QUEENS: PLANTS THAT SPARKLE UNDER FROST

It's not easy looking gorgeous in the cold, but these plants add structure and beauty to the winter landscape, and the rest of the year as well.



Conifer beds with *Abies procera*. Like scatter cushions on a favorite sofa, evergreens plump out the garden and provide a bumpy canvas against which you can paint with annuals, perennials and bulbs. Conifers are sometimes maligned but little else provide such rich textures and firm shapes especially at this time of year. Frost only softens the natural vibrant colors of picea (foreground) and the dangling dreadlocks of coffin juniper (*Juniperus recurva* var. *coxii*).

For more winter plant options, visit the link below.

Reprinted/Resources from:
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/homed/gallery/104711485>



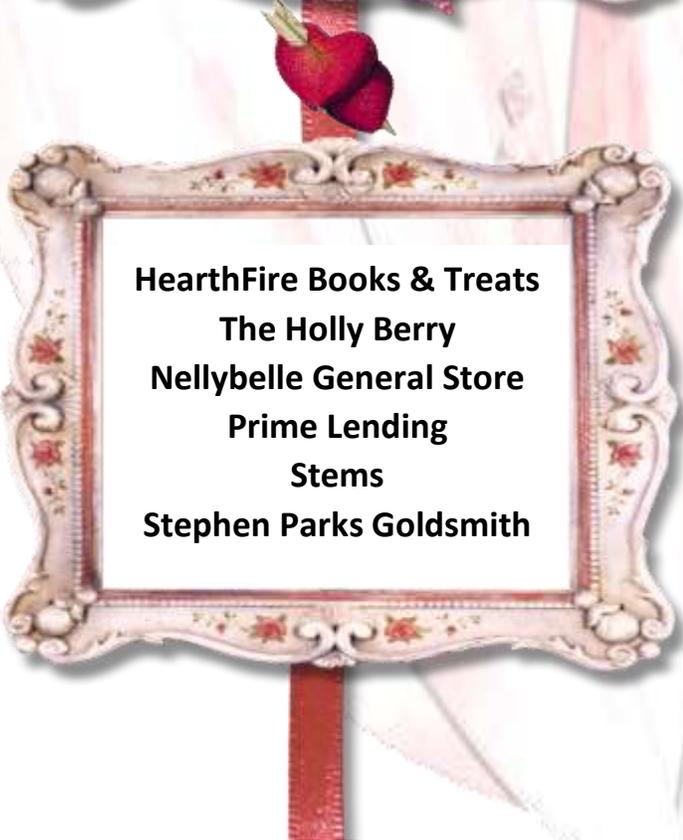
**VALENTINE'S DAY IS ON THE WAY!
PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**



**Beau Jo's Pizza
Baskin Robbins
Chow Down
David Hanna
Coldwell Banker**



**The Evergreen Gallery
Frames for all Reasons
The Village Gourmet
Sundance Gardens**



**HearthFire Books & Treats
The Holly Berry
Nellybelle General Store
Prime Lending
Stems
Stephen Parks Goldsmith**



'Young Lady' smoke tree
Cotinus coggygria
'Young Lady'
Zone 4



'Camelot Rose' foxglove
Digitalis purpurea
'Camelot Rose'
Zone 4



'Silver Cup' mallow
Lavatera trimestris
'Silver Cup'
Annual

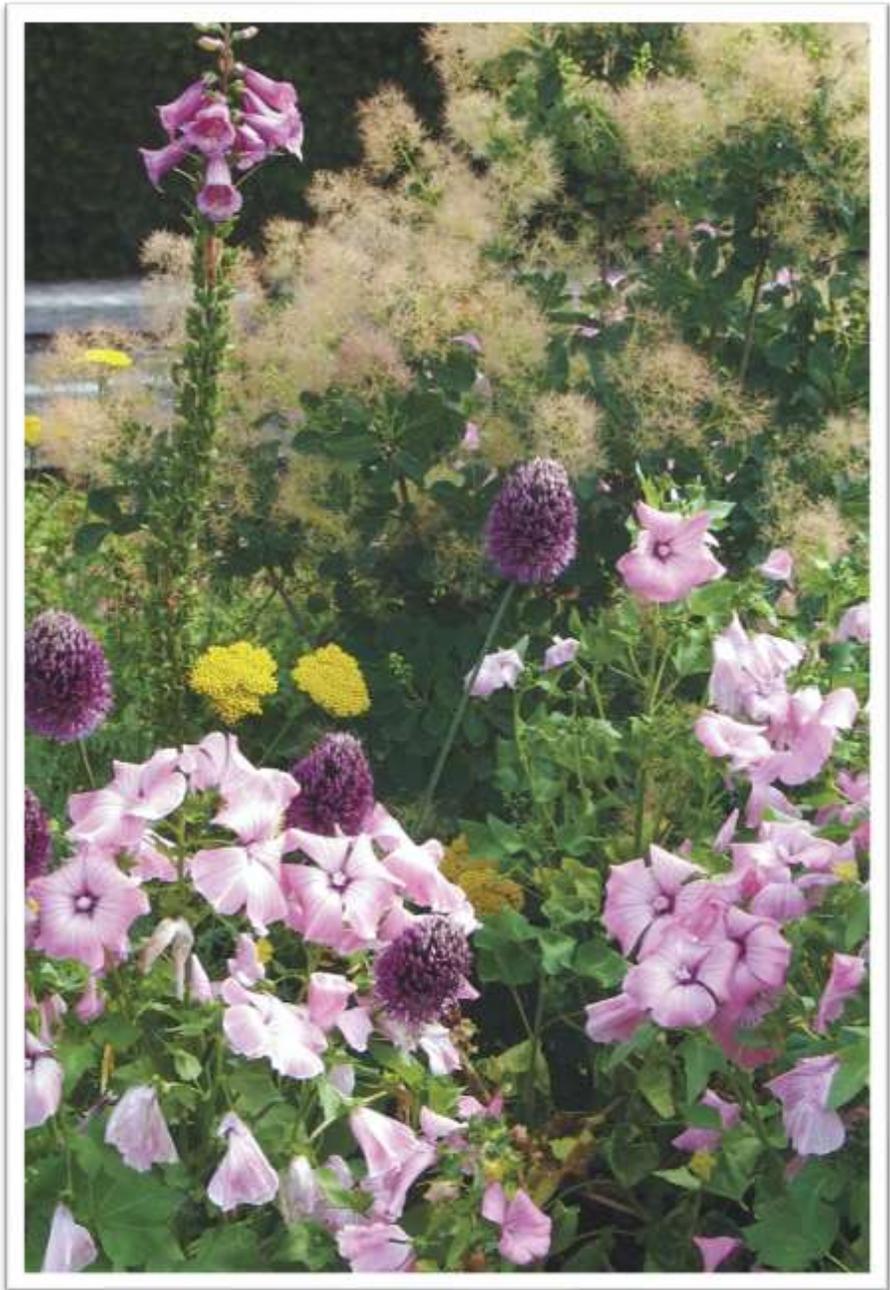


'Coronation Gold' yarrow
Achillea filipendulina
'Coronation Gold'
Zone 3



Drumstick allium
Allium sphaerocephalum
Zone 4

**A pretty combination for
Zone 4 gardens**



Resource: *Designer Plant Combinations* by Scott Calhoun

Best Wishes to all our
EGC February Birthday
Boys and Girls!



Please send any questions, corrections,
additions, or submissions for the Wild Iris to
louiseheern@gmail.com