



Evergreen Garden Club

The Wild Iris

Volume 18, Issue 18

March 2007

A Word from the President...

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EGC 2005-2006 Board Members Presidents:

Nan Spence

Vice Presidents:

Chris Gray

Sheila Henriksen

Secretary:

Kim Stark

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 Fire & Rescue Station on Bergen Parkway 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

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Evergreengardenclub.org

It is the nature of gardeners to look toward the future.

The very essence of gardening is to look ahead, to know that we will reap rewards in the future for our current hard work. It is clear to me that the founding members of the Evergreen Garden Club, being gardeners, were also forward-thinking people. I doubt that there are many other garden clubs that were based upon such strong commitments to advancing responsible gardening practices, to beautifying its local community and to instilling a love of both horticulture and conservation in future generations. That these commitments have continued on through four decades is proof of our founding member's visionary thinking. Therefore, the fact that our club's recent decision to become a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation is supported by Louise Mounsey and Sylvia Brockner, the founding members who remain in our club, is an unequivocal affirmation that we are doing what is necessary to safeguard the future of our remarkable organization.

The more we change, the more we stay the same.

Everyone reacts differently to change. Some people say that the older we are, the more resistant we become to change. I do not agree. I know many older folks who thrive on new experiences and adventures. I know others, much younger than I, who are quite content with maintaining the current status quo. I am sure that our club is made up of both, with

most of us falling somewhere in between.

However, the change that the Evergreen Garden Club is now embarked upon should appeal to all club members no matter where we fall on any change-tolerance scale. By incorporating and securing tax-exempt status, we are enabling current activities, programs and projects of our club to continue unchanged. However, we are providing the framework for continued growth and for whatever new horticultural and conservation ventures the club may wish to undertake in the future. Moreover, we will be operating in a manner, which offers both more safety and security for all of our members.

Sacrifice is almost always a necessary part of attaining worthwhile goals.

A few members have asked why we cannot hold our annual fundraiser while tackling our reorganization issues. This is understandable, as we all look forward to our garden tour, and we make good use of the funds this event brings in. Certainly, I, like other Board and special reorganization committee members, would rather be spending our time planning a garden tour than working on these complex administrative issues for the past several months and in the months to come. However, like most volunteer groups, we have limited volunteer resources. Our members live busy lives – having only so many hours to devote to any one cause or group, however worthy.

(Continued on page 2)

March 13, 2007 - The Nuts and Bolts of Container Gardening

Lee Curtis, a Master Gardener with Jefferson County, has many troughs and containers in her own garden. Lee will enlighten all of us as to the many types of containers that are now available as well as the different types of soil mixes that are appropriate for the various containers. We will learn about numerous annuals and perennials that do well in containers and how altitude affects the care we give container plants.

The meeting begins at 9:30 am at the Fire & Rescue Station on Bergen Parkway. Remember to bring your plants, cuttings, pots, etc. for the World Gardening Table...and your coffee mug. See you there!

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



Garden Club News

Welcome new members!!! Anna Marie & George Nelson, Elin Bastianelli, Susan Grannell

*I've been working for Open Space at Hiwan Homestead Museum for almost 15 years. I really enjoy our volunteers and visitors. They often comment on our gardens and we appreciate all the support over the years. I'm very interested in sewing quilts and give many away each year to senior houses, etc. I put on a yearly Outdoor Quilt Festival at the Museum. This year it is Sept 29, 2007 10 to 4 PM. I joined the Garden Club to improve my garden and help with beds around the Museum. I'm also interested in traveling, reading, writing, knitting, beading, painting, scrapbooking and having Fun. **Susan Grannell***

March Hospitality Committee: Nancy Elliott, Karla Briggs, Irene Brenner, Kathy Anderson, Ann Bolson, Beth Feldkamp

(Continued from Pres. Message page 1)

We recognize that a major reason the tasks of reorganization have been put off in the past was that Board and club members' time was, understandably, taken up by on-going Board responsibilities and club activities, in addition to planning and holding our annual garden tour or plant sale.

Your current Board, also made up of very busy women, realized that the pot on the back burner—restructuring-- was now in danger of boiling over. It had to become a front burner issue, not something to be done "if we only had more time." It had to become the club's highest and immediate priority, thus the major investment of the club's time. I think all of us should be pleased that, aside from the postponement of this year's tour, all of our programs and activities have been able to continue as normal.

By making this temporary sacrifice, we are assuring that our club will be around to hold many more garden tours and plant sales, to award scholarships and to continue to enhance the beauty of Evergreen through our community garden program as well as carrying out equally worthwhile current and future endeavors.

We will all reap the future rewards of our current labors.

Special thanks go out to the following members who are currently hard at work serving on our By-Laws Committee: Kathy Anderson, Elin Bastianelli, Meredith Bossert, Lorna Chorn, Jan Drury, Sharon Eaves, Sheila Henriksen, Tina Kellogg, Louise Mounsey, Jo Powers, Kim Stark, Bev Wickland and Juanita Zellner.

Nan Spence
Evergreen Garden Club President

NEW COMMITTEE CO-COORDINATORS

1. **Barb DeCaro** has joined **Louise Mounsey** as the new co-coordinator of the **Memorial Funds Committee**.
2. **Beth Feldkamp** and **Nan Spence** will work together to complete the **Business Membership** Coordinator tasks for the remainder of this year.
3. **Nan Spence** will serve as backup to **Liz Hamilton** for **Group Email** coordination.
4. **Marilyn Kaussner**, **Buchanan Cultural Center Project**

Minutes of the February 13, 2007 Meeting

Nan began the meeting at 9:30. After welcoming all members and guests, she reminded us that the schedule for this month is reversed so that the guest speaker will be first and the members' only meeting will follow after the break.

Guest Speaker-Andrew Pierce, an internationally known horticulturist, lecturer and author gave his slide presentation on the Plants and Flowers of Shakespeare.

Nan began the members' only meeting at 11:00.

Hospitality-Nan thanked the Hospitality Committee for their time and effort in providing yet another delicious luncheon.

Treasurer's Report- Priscilla welcomed several new members and gave the Treasurer's Report. She asked for the financial statements to be approved and accepted which they were.

Secretary's Report- Kim noted a card was sent to the family of Joan Reynolds, the EGC had received an invitation to the Bootstraps annual fundraising dinner and asked for and received approval of the January Minutes as published in the Wild Iris.

World Gardening-Many plants were offered this month by the Reynolds family, those not sold were to be delivered to the Seniors' Resource Center as part of their horticulture therapy program.

EGC Reorganization & Liability-Nan offered a brief background as to how these issues were initially brought to our attention. It initiated last summer with our plant sale at Heritage Grove and their request for EGC to have liability insurance. As time went on, it was made clear to the EGC Board that a Special Committee was needed to re-search these issues and so one was appointed. At the EGC Board meeting of February 6, 2007, the Special Committee presented their findings, (copy attached) based upon much research and advice from both an attorney and CPA. The Board presented two recommendations for the members to vote upon:

1) Re-write the By Laws, incorporated as a Colorado Non-Profit and apply for 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Status; or 2) Re-write the By laws, incorporate as a Colorado Non-Profit and apply for 501(c)4 Tax Exempt Status. Nan went over the pros and cons of both, as provided by both the CPA and attorney, and took questions from the membership. It was then motioned for the vote to take place. At the request of three members, a vote was motioned for separate approval to incorporate; it was seconded and approved. There were no opposing votes. After much further discussion, a motion was made to vote on 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 status.

The results were: 34 in favor of 501(c)3, 6 in favor of 501(c)4 and one abstention.

Nan then asked for membership participation by signing up for either the By-Laws Committee or the Tax Exempt Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25

Members present: 41

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Stark

Please contact Kim Stark with any changes/corrections to these Minutes.

Reminder Concerning Parking at Our Monthly Meetings

Please keep in mind that Evergreen Fire Rescue is providing temporary close-in parking spaces for those members who would experience difficulty in walking from spaces further from the entrance to the building. These spaces are marked with orange cones which you can pull in between to park. For members who are carrying large items into the meeting, such as decorations, food, or world gardening items, you may pull up to the entrance at the front of the building to unload and carry your items in, then move your vehicle to a parking space when you are finished. This also applies on leaving the meeting with items which you are unable to carry to your parking space. This should alleviate any parking concerns. However, please let one of our officers know if you encounter any situations that remain a problem and we will work to get it solved. Thank you for your cooperation and for your thoughtful consideration the needs of other members.



Over The Garden Fence

By Julaine Kennedy

This past month I had an opportunity to pass time in a doctor's office. You know, good magazines, cup of brew and chill out waiting my turn...actually I was just there to get away from the rush of the week. I'll go back to this doctor's office...very good magazines!!! National Geographic, Health and Fitness, a couple sports magazines and House and Garden.

It was the small teacups dressed to the 9's with miniature orchids that caught my eye. There are so many tiny orchids that are available in 1/12-4" pots. Choose from Angrangis, Cattleya, Dendrobium, Epidendrum, Masdevallias, Oncidium to Phalaenopsis; and more species are being discovered daily. How about a collection? Pick from bloom time, color and shape. The miniature orchids grow rapidly, several are fragrant and easy to display for any setting. What a wonderful addition to perk up wintry day.



For more orchid information the following books will serve you well.

Understanding Orchids, William Cullina Houghton Mifflin Co, 2004.

Miniature Orchids and How to Grow Them, Rebecca Tyson Northen, Dover Publications, Reprint, 1996.

Orchids as Houseplants, Rebecca Tyson Northen, Dover Publications, 1976.

Easy Orchids, the fail-safe guide to growing orchids indoors, Liz Johnson, Firefly Books, Limited, 2005.

Orchids, Wilma Ritterhausen and Brian Ritterhausen, Quadrille Publishing, Ltd. January 2007.

Miniature Orchids, Steven Frowine, Timber Press, July 2007.

Fantasy Orchids in Louisville, CO lists a few miniature orchids on their website, www.fantasyorchids.com.

Another wonderful website for miniature orchids www.andy'sorchids.com .

You will find helpful cultural information for indoor growing and if you can't find the orchid you want locally, Andy's Orchids has great customer service ratings.

The Irish are known for their leprechauns, delightful sayings, green shamrocks and...their potatoes. The traditional Irish diet for centuries has been a healthy mix of meat, dairy products, oatmeal, wheat and lots of potatoes.

History of the Potato

The potato was introduced to Ireland in the 1600s, and by the end of the 1700s, the Irish depended on it completely to feed themselves. Tragically, in 1844, the potato crop failed and one million of Ireland's nine million people died. So, for many Irish folks, the potato became a dual symbol, one of Irish hunger, but also of humble nourishment.

Potatoes Give Good Nutrition

They are full of [vitamin C](#), potassium and [thiamin](#), and they have some [protein](#). It isn't so healthy, but you *can* survive on them, just as the Irish did for so many years. But the Irish have other food legacies and traditions besides the potato. Perhaps surprising to some this side of the Atlantic, corned beef and cabbage is not eaten all that often and is not considered the national dish. While meat and potatoes are a mainstay, cattle are kept mostly for milk and the Irish diet is rich in dairy products. Root vegetables -- parsnips, turnips, carrots -- and onions are also eaten in abundance. Add to the above seafood, lamb, plenty of oats, barley and wheat and you've got the makings of a typical Irish diet.

A traditional Irish saying goes:

*Rye bread will do you good,
Barley bread will do you no harm,
Wheaten bread will sweeten your blood,
Oaten bread will strengthen your arm.*

St. Patrick

St. Patrick was supposed to have been born in Scotland 373 A.D.

As a 16 year old he was kidnapped by pirates and taken as a slave to Ireland where he was kept prisoner for 6 years.

It was there in prison he had his first visions.

After he managed to escape, he went to France, where he was ordained as a Priest, then became a Deacon and was finally made a Bishop.

He was sent back to Ireland to preach the gospel by Pope Celestine.

St Patrick passed frequently through Celtic countries, Brittany, Cornwall, Wales, Scotland and Ireland where he has places named after him.

St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is an Irish holiday that is celebrated around the world honoring the converting of the Irish people to Christianity around 400 A.D.



Stems a flower shop

Watch for spring specials on our website www.stemsflowershop.com and our newsletter!

Please contact us at 1-866-771-4995 or info@stemsflowershop.com

If you have a question or would like to place an order.

HORTICULTURE

KEEPING FLOWERS FRESHER, LONGER

To keep a bouquet from wilting early—

- Wash the vase carefully to remove all traces of flowers that were in it before.
- Fill the vase with lukewarm water for most flowers, cold water for bulb flowers.
- Use any preservative as the label directs. Preservatives include sugars to feed the flower, biocides to discourage growth of bacteria and fungi and allow for easier water uptake and an acidifier which lowers the water's pH. Another common potion: 1 tsp of bleach and 1 tbsp of sugar stirred into 1 gallon of water.
- Remove any foliage that will be below the water line; it breeds bacteria.
- Holding each stem under water, use a sharp, non-serrated knife to cut about an inch off the end. Cut at an angle. A knife won't crush stems as scissors can, underwater cutting prevents air from blocking water uptake, and an angle keeps stems from resting flat against the vase.
- Put the freshly cut flowers in a filled vase right away.
- Place the vase out of direct sunlight in a cool spot, away from vents, radiators, or appliances that get warm.
- Every other day, refill the vase, add preservative, re-cut the stems, and put them in the vase immediately.

Submitted by Irma Wolf

Grow a Leprechaun and Shamrocks

These are fun gardening activities for St. Patrick's Day

Give each child a small cup. I try to get white bathroom cups for this activity. Spray paint the cups green. Using paint pens, draw a leprechaun's face on the cup. Fill the cup with dirt and plant grass seed in the cup. Water well and watch the seeds grow. You will see your leprechaun grow hair!. You need to begin the activity between 2-3 weeks before St. Patrick's Day in order to have enough hair in the cup.

Growing Shamrocks

One leaf is for HOPE... The second for FAITH...
The third for LOVE... And the fourth for LUCK!

Cut shamrock from a sponge. Moisten shamrock. Sprinkle with alfalfa seed. Keep moist. Set in dark place. Allow several days for shamrock to grow. Set in sunlight for shamrock to turn green.

Seeds can be sown in small pots or trays using peat pellets, peat pots or any moist, well drained soil mix. The seeds which are very small should be placed on the moist soil surface or lightly covered with soil. A clear dome or plastic cover should be placed over the pot or tray (supported at least 2" above the surface) and the pot or tray placed in a warm shaded location until the seeds have germinated (this will usually be in about a week).

Once the seeds have germinated and the first "seed" leaf appears (this will be a single leaf, not a clover leaf), remove the cover and place pot or tray in a sunny location, keep moist and do not allow soil to dry out. When the soil surface "lightens" and starts to dry, it's time to water. Depending on your pot or tray size and location, you may have to water every day or every second or third day. Only water, do not fertilize. When two or three true clover leaves have formed, you can begin fertilizing with a liquid fertilizer at the recommended dosage for house plants.

You can buy shamrock seeds from the following sources:

Digital Rain Gardens

Shamrock Seeds From Ireland From www.geocities.com/Athens/Atrium/5924/growaleprechaun.htm -

GARDEN CLUB BUSINESS MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

Mary Richards, Richards Renaissance Team
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
30810 Stagecoach Boulevard, Suite 101
Evergreen, CO 80439
303-679-2211
Website: [http://](http://www.EvergreenHomes4U.com)
www.EvergreenHomes4U.com



EAs founder and managing partner of the Richards Renaissance Team, Mary Richards is clearly goal-oriented. But it's her clients' goals that drive her. Her knowledge of, experience in and passion for the real estate industry – along with an unbending commitment to her clients -- make her uniquely qualified to help her clients achieve their dreams when buying and selling their homes.

Mary's expertise spans 20 years in the real estate industry. A licensed realtor since 1986, she is one of the top producers in the Mountain Metro Association of Realtors and winner of the Coldwell Banker International Presidential Circle Award. Mary also is a licensed real estate appraiser, a designated Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI) who has run her own appraisal firm for 10 years. Her experience as both realtor and appraiser provides an added level of education and perspective that few realtors possess.

Service is Mary's specialty. She truly listens to her clients' needs, strongly values honesty and integrity, and genuinely cares for people. Her proudest achievements include the lifelong relationships she's developed with the people she's had the honor to assist through real estate.

Mary has made it her business to know the real estate industry inside out, and to pass along that knowledge to her clients' benefit. Knowledge, Integrity, Results is not just her slogan. It's how she conducts her business, every day.



EVERGREEN GARDEN CENTER *2007 SPRING CLASSES*

Come join in on any or all of our great gardening classes being offered this spring. After all the snow we've had wouldn't it be nice to plan some fresh ideas to spruce up your outdoor environment? From soils to flowers, trees to water features, fairy gardens to a whole new landscape, make Evergreen Garden Center the place to be this Spring!

March 2007 Class Schedule

March 3rd, 11:00 am Speaker: Julaine Kennedy: "Organic Gardening" Good for the environment, the soil and you. Come find out why.

March 3rd, 1:00 pm Speaker: Don Eversol: Beauty Beyond Belief; Don will tell you the best way to seed with wildflower and the best time to do it. Questions anyone?

March 10th, 11:00am Water features, large and small. What a great way to add tranquility to your home, inside or out!

March 17th: 11:00 am Speaker: Arlene Fitterer: Fairy Gardens-Fairies in Colorado? Why not? You can plant a fairy garden several ways-Come and enjoy making a small garden, yes with fairies!

March 24th: 10:30 am Speaker: Bob Kennedy; What you need to know about our so-called soil; and why you need amendments. Learn the difference between indoor and outdoor potting soil. What is compost and why you need it!

March 31st: 10:30 am Speaker: Debbie Borden-Miller; Exciting new annuals for 2007. "All-American" selection, Best of CSU, and Welby's Trial Garden.

Our class schedule is also on our website, www.evergarden.net

Please reserve your space early, we have limited seating!

Call 303-674-2146, or email to info@evergarden.net

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



Denver Botanic Gardens Schedule of Events www.denverbotanicgardens.org

David Rogers' Big Bugs Exhibit

Get a bug's eye view of the world when you encounter a 1,200-pound praying mantis, a 7-foot assassin bug and eight other enormous natural sculptures at the Big Bugs exhibit at Denver Botanic Gardens, March 24-June 24, 2007. A swarm of events and educational activities that celebrate the world of plant and insect relationships will highlight the three-month exhibit.

All of the bugs will be displayed in natural settings throughout the Gardens, including in the Monet Garden pool. The roster of 10 bugs includes three ants, a praying mantis, a dragonfly, a spider in its web, a grasshopper, a damselfly, an assassin bug and a lady bug. The gigantic sculptures are created using various combinations of whole trees found standing or fallen dead, cut green saplings selectively harvested from the willow family, dry branches and other forest materials. The weight of the sculptures varies from 30 to 1,200 pounds.

Grand Opening

Saturday, March 24, 2007 Member-only hour 8-9 a.m.

The Big Bugs exhibit grand opening on Saturday, **March 24 will be a free day for visitors** and will include a full day of exciting activities for the entire family:

9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Insect Activities Family Touch Cart

9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Family activities exploring the world of bugs, including creating your own insect sculptures and observing insects

9 a.m.-3 p.m.: "Insects Under Glass" slide exhibit

10 a.m, Noon, 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.: Guided tours of the Big Bugs exhibit

Throughout the day: Cockroach races, and the Butterfly Pavilion will bring Rosie the tarantula, a stick bug and a Madagascar cockroach to view and touch

Dates: March 24-June 24, 2007

Admission: Free to members, regular admission for nonmembers

Denver Botanic Gardens Hours:

September 16-April 30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

May 1-September 15, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday-Tuesday and

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday

