

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

April, 2009 Newsletter
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CELEBRATING 11 YEARS

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Established 1997

IF MONET COULD DO IT, SO CAN YOU

Nearly everyone wants to have a beautiful garden. Expert garden designers like Gertrude Jekyll, Rosemary Verey, and Penelope Hobhouse were sought out to design gardens with spectacular views; Claude Monet's garden and his paintings of it are world famous. What can we learn from them as we anticipate another spring in our gardens? Now is the time to take inventory of the garden and take action to make it, or any part of it, the most beautiful it can be. Look out at the garden from inside to ensure that vistas are beautiful, well framed by windows.



Enhance the front entry. Select containers that are in scale and compatible with the style of the home. Notice in this case these urns alone would not have had enough mass to be in scale with the home. Larger urns or additional containers could also be in order.

Study the color tones of your home and use a color wheel to select a spring color palette for compatible containers and plant combinations. Notice in the picture of Monet's home, he repeated the pink of the house in the pink tulips, the green trim is echoed by green leaves, and the

blue is complimentary with the pink.



Green containers could be incorporated into this vignette, or perhaps fine whitewashed terra cotta.

Incorporate vertical interest in the garden; it is appealing to have something beautiful in view at eye level and above. Bring color and texture above ground level with an arbor, a rose dome, clematis tuteur, or a trellis.



Beauty is relatively easy to achieve. Have a good plan, be diligent and patient; homes and gardens are improved and beautified one inch at a time, one pot, one structure, one plant at a time.

THE 2009 SYMPHONY SHOW HOUSE AND GARDENS

Wilshire Garden Market will be a participant in the Symphony Show House Garden at 431 N.W.17 in historic Heritage Hills. The Show House will be open from Sunday, April 26 until Sunday, May 17.

HELP US GO GREEN!

We, and many of our customers and friends, want to contribute to the health of our planet. Frequently customers decline to carry out their purchases in paper bags, to be more environmentally friendly. It is our near term (May) goal to send out our newsletter by email only. The benefits include:

- **Timeliness:** Online information is available while paper copies are still making their way through the postal system.
- **Availability:** You can access these materials on the internet when you choose, **in color**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **Savings:** Electronic delivery of these materials allows us to spend more on beautiful inventory, not paper and postage.

As an incentive, we are offering to the first 10 email newsletter converts a complimentary ticket to the Designer Show House. To access the Wilshire Garden Market newsletter online, simply go to email newsletter signup on the left side of the web site home page and fill in two simple lines (the link is <http://www.wilshiregardenmarket.com>).

We thank you!

HUMMINGBIRDS ARE COMING BACK

We love the tiny, speedy hummingbird. Perhaps due to those very qualities, they are a mystery that we can't quite get our hands or eyes on long enough to satisfy our curiosity. However, we will have another chance to spot them in our gardens this year if we



provide the proper attractions: their favorite plants as well as hummingbird feeders such as these in gorgeous new styles.

A good way to enjoy the company of hummingbirds is to plant a hummingbird garden; the hummer garden helps attract them to your nearby feeder. Hummers have no sense of smell; they are attracted to highly visible plants that produce abundant amounts of nectar and they are attracted to feeders.



Hummingbirds eat protein as well as nectar; 10% of their diet is from arthropods: flies, wasps, spiders, beetles, and ants. Some will grab them right out of the air; others pick them out of flowers and underneath leaves. At night they reduce their heart rate to conserve energy, so much so that they appear to be dead, however when sunlight comes, the air warms and food is available again, they come to life and buzz off on their search for food and nectar.



If you use a feeder, sooner or later a hummingbird will come to investigate, and then you will be on his trapline. It has been said that in a given year not one square meter of the U.S. or southern Canada goes unchecked by hummers in their relentless quest for food. The first wave of the Ruby Throated hummingbirds usually arrive in OKC

from the Yucatan in late March, and without an abundance of blooming plants and insects, they will be very hungry, so fill your feeders regularly with fresh nectar, and watch!

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE

We are excited to have received the new Weems Storm Glass Mysterious Weather Predictor! Since the 1700's, this interesting device has been used for predicting the weather one to two days in advance. It requires no bat-



teries or programming and it works indoors or out. Changes occur in the crystal formations from day to day, signifying what weather changes to expect. It is a great gift, or you can amaze your friends with your predicting skills.



Visible for quite a good distance, the generously sized 25 inch high estate rain gauge will measure up to 12 inches of rain! Mount the rain gauge securely on any fence or wall with the four brass screws provided. A clever brass faucet at the bottom allows the vial to be emptied after each rain, and be ready to measure the next shower. The brass screen fixture inserted at the top of the vial prevents debris from spoiling the beautiful view. The numbers appear to be even 50% larger when the vial is filled with water.

The uniquely beautiful instruments will do their jobs well, while making an artistic addition to any garden. Their craftsmanship is guaranteed for life, each weather instrument is expertly crafted of the finest materials.

APRIL 2009 TO DO LIST

- Prune winter flowering vines after bloom.
- Plant permanent ground cover.
- Plant or repair lawns.
- Plant bare root or container roses, annuals, perennials, fruit trees, and evergreens.
- Feed house plants that are growing or blooming.
- Prune spring flowering or tender shrubs just after bloom.
- Plant vegetable seedlings.
- Plant summer and fall flowering bulbs.

LINDA VATER SEMINARS 2009

These seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at noon, with time for questions at the conclusion. The fee is \$10 per person; seating is somewhat limited, so call now to reserve a space. Light refreshments are served. Please join us!

Sat., April 4 Garden Renovation

Sat., May 2 Gardening with an Oklahoma Accent

If weather permits, a visit to Linda's garden is planned following the May seminar.

You can get interesting garden information by watching Linda Vater's garden segments on KFOR-TV 4:45 News with Linda Cavanaugh.

EXTERIOR DECORATING

Give yourself (or someone else) a garden retreat, or update an existing one. Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit followed by written suggestions to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store for details or to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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M A R K E T



SPRING IS HERE!

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