

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

June, 2008 Newsletter

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CELEBRATING ELEVEN YEARS

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Established 1997

BEAUTY AT EYE LEVEL: GARDEN STRUCTURES

June is a warm, busy month, and gardeners are busily creating beautiful vignettes, secret gardens, and quiet retreats. But when many gardeners stand back and look at their gardens, something is lacking; one simple element: visual interest at eye level.

A garden can be beautifully planted at ground level and still lack vertical interest. Many people are only comfortable planting in the soil or in pots and are uncomfortable using an accent piece to make a bold vertical statement or they simply don't think of it. Vertical structures provide garden "bones", very important to a well rounded garden.



One of the most classic upright garden structures is the wooden or metal arch. An arch is the epitome of good garden bones, evoking images of leisurely strolls through a rose smothered portal into a beautiful secluded garden.

This brings to mind a point about arbors: they are meant to be used to pass through, usually two people shoulder to shoulder. An arch is dramatic when incorporated this way, much more effective than an arch placed against a solid object that no one can pass through. However, an arch used with a faux garden painting or with shrubs trimmed to give an illusion of depth can be a clever focal point.

Statuary, containers, sundials, and other ornamental objects can be placed on tall pedestals for vertical interest in the garden as well.



Other vertical garden elements used artistically are large rose domes and smaller clematis domes. These can be round or some topiary forms have a square base narrowing to a top finial.

A dome with an 18" diameter is placed over a young or thinned and pruned climbing rose. The branches can be trained up and around the dome, allowing more health giving sunlight to reach the branches, resulting in more abundant blooms.



An umbrella tuteur is similar, only with an umbrella shaped top section. The climbing rose grows up the center, pours over the top and is allowed to hang over several feet, making a spectacular picture at its peak spring bloom. That is vertical visual interest.

Flat trellises are useful for supporting all sorts of climbing plants next to a fence or wall. They can be custom made, from simple to more ornate, to suit almost any situation. Use more than one to fill a blank wall.



Gardens are better for having vertical structures and climbing plants as part of their composition. Roses and climbing vines benefit from having their branches fixed to sturdy supports. This season add a vertical element to your perennial bed or garden with a trellis or rose dome planted with colorful blossoms.

FATHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Gifts for fathers abound at Wilshire Garden Market. For the gardening dad, or for the father who has everything, you can find the perfect gift here.



Tools are always useful and a pair of Felco pruners makes work easier, even pleasant according to our customers. Everyone who gets a pair of Felcos swears by them. They have awesome precision and quality that you can feel. It is the only pair of pruners that you will ever need, because you can get replacement parts. A handy Bacho folding saw can go to the garden easily and performs like it is cutting butter. Other quality tools include the unique Koreanweeder, the hand forged perennial shovel, and *the incredible soil knife*.

All of the men who visit the store linger in front of the weather instrument display. These high quality thermometers, rain gauges, and clocks are made for outdoors and have a lifetime guarantee. The Jeffersonian wind gauge or rain gauge would make a very impressive Father's Day gift.



Many men are addicted to our French soaps, using them every day and trying new scents frequently. The extra fragrant honey, green tea, milk, and pineapple are among the favorites.

Add peace to Dad's life with a perfectly tuned wind chime. New this year is the deep tone of the 55 inch wind chime in verdigris finish. Each time the breeze blows, peaceful hand tuned notes are played. Each set of wind chimes is expertly tuned with a musical theme in mind such as Beethoven, Chimes of Bali, Mozart, or Gregorian Alto.



Give Dad a one of a kind signed bird bowl or a toad house crafted by talented local potter Mike Paluska. These are working pieces of art that make beautiful garden focal points and conversation pieces.



Dad will enjoy a copper oil torch or two for the garden. In bright copper or verdigris blue, they are easy to install and a pleasure to use. A torch holds eight hours of oil. Each comes with its own snuffer

cap attached with a chain.

Dad also might like a comfy hammock chair swing to hang in his favorite tree or under a sturdy arbor. Dad won't mind too much if you use it as well. The swings and pillows are made of durable polyester. The covers of the pillows zip off for laundering.



Other great gifts include rain chains, beautiful green or blue glass and brass bird feeders, or a new hummingbird feeder, the "pot de crème". Frog statues are always popular, an iron cross or slag glass stake, gloves, bird baths, turtle statues, or fountains.



Remember to mark the calendar for June 15, for all of the Father's Day festivities.

ROSE IS FLOWER OF THE MONTH



The rose is the symbol for love. The red rose symbolizes love, respect, and courage. The pink rose symbolizes grace and perfect happiness. Dark pink symbolizes gratitude; light pink, admiration and sympathy. Innocence, purity, secrecy, and humility are symbolized by white roses.



Friendship, undying love, and platonic love are symbolized by the yellow rose. Passion and desire are symbolized by orange roses. Blue or lavender roses symbolize mystery and the extraordinary.



Most roses produce a sweet fragrance; the petals can be steamed and distilled into perfumes. The rose is the national flower of England.

GARDEN TOURS INSPIRE

Our thanks go out to the Oklahoma Horticulture Society for hosting another Garden Tour for Connoisseurs. The gardens were as unique as they were beautiful. The tour inspired many to make improvements to their own gardens. Remember that the Nichols Hills Garden Tour and the Belle Isle neighborhood Garden Tours will be this Saturday. Buy tickets to the Nichols Hills Garden Tour at Wilshire Garden Market. The Belle Isle tour is free to the public. Go get inspired!

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWS?

This is a reminder that you can receive this newsletter by email! We encourage anyone who has email but still receives this newsletter by snail mail to allow us to email the monthly newsletter to you. The email version is in color, it is paperless unless you decide to print it and you receive it immediately. Save paper, time, and postage. If you do decide to switch to email, remember to alert your computer so that it will not send the newsletter to the Bulk file. To sign up to receive the newsletter via email, send a message to us at wgmok@sbcglobal.net. Remember to give us your name so that we can correct our mailing list. Thank you for your consideration!

JUNE 2008 TO DO LIST

- Keep new plants watered.
- Check mulch.
- Side dress with compost for mid-season pick up.
- Check foliage for nutrient deficiencies.
- Put houseplants outdoors in the shade.
- Keep deadheading for long season bloom
- Pinch back fall blooming Mums, Asters, Monardia.
- Stake tomato plants.
- Maintenance trims on wisteria.

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



**FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 15
GREAT GIFTS INSIDE!**

Wilshire Garden Market
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