

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

June, 2009 Newsletter

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CELEBRATING 12 YEARS

2821 Wilshire Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73116
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Established 1997

YOUR SUMMER GARDEN

This is a busy month for gardeners, and with the recent abundant rain, most everyone is behind schedule in their gardens. Perhaps the downtime provided an opportunity to plan a better garden: one with focal points, groups of beautiful containers of adequate size to maintain vigorous plants in the summer heat, and coordinated accessories for outdoor entertaining.

Every garden needs enough focal points to create beautiful vistas from indoors or outdoors. Focal



points can be short or tall, however most gardens are lacking vertical interest, so adding a focal point with height may be beneficial. Whether it is a structure, a fountain, statuary piece, important plant container, or specimen tree, the options are nearly limitless. Climbing or vining plants trained on supports such as arbors, rose domes, or tuteurs become beautiful living focal points, defining areas and serving as destinations in the garden, encouraging visitors to explore the farthest corners.

Dramatic containers are very effective focal points whether at an entry or in a flower border, key factors being the containers' large size, artful design, and perhaps color. Well planted, the container and plant materials work in unison to become a single decorative object.



Coordinating the color of a plant or plant feature such as stems, veins, or foliage with the color of the planter makes a successful container. When it comes to summer in Oklahoma, planting in large pots is definitely better. The larger the container, the more moisture it can retain and the greater variety of plants can be included.

When decorating your outdoor entertaining spaces, incorporate comfort and richness. Looking out from indoors set your stage. Outdoor rugs under dining and seating areas beckon you to come outdoors. Sunbrella cushions come in delicious colors that will make you



feel as though you are vacationing. Comfortable outdoor pillows in beautiful stripes and prints add accents where needed. Remember to add a beautiful tablecloth to your outdoor table when entertaining; set with unbreakable melamine dishes and a ceramic oil lamp, the scene is irresistible. Relax!

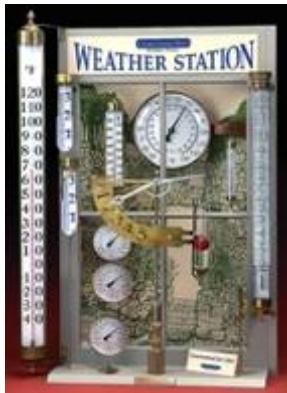
FATHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Father's Day is June 21. Gifts for fathers abound at Wilshire Garden Market; 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 are the unique Koreanweeder, and the incredible Hori Hori soil knife.



Men who visit the store linger in front of the weather instrument display. These high quality thermometers and rain gauges are made for outdoors and have a lifetime guarantee. A Jeffersonian wind gauge or a Mysterious Storm Glass 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 made in the USA. 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 21, for all of the Father's Day festivities and the first day of summer.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE



Traditional style, gray, lightweight containers 19.75" wide x 14.75" high are very suitable for holding a beautiful rose and can be moved easily when desired.

Precious little melamine dipping bowls in 12 different patterns are beautiful for holding olive oil and balsamic vinegar, ranch dressing, any of your favorite sauces, or gelato. They coordinate with the various melamine dinnerware patterns as well.



Browse our new flags for summer and 4th of July.



the arrival of new pillows.

Everyone loves brightly colored oilcloth pillows to accent outdoor benches and chairs. Oilcloth tablecloths are easy care, just wipe off with a damp cloth. Watch for



A brand new style, the beautiful sparkling copper pot will hold 150' of hose. This is slightly larger than the beautiful verdigris brass hose pots. A copper hose pot will make a garden more beautiful.

This topiary form, or tuteur, will make a beautiful support for vigorous clematis. The clematis tuteurs rose domes, and rose trellises are made locally, and can be custom made to fit a specific space requirement. Bring in measurements or a picture and get an estimate.



A gecko or a speckled frog with golden eyes on a rock is a darling and highly popular garden ornament. We will have these back in stock in the next week in time for gift giving. The little creatures appeal with their natural yet exotic appearance.

These ladies took an opportunity to relax for a bit in our comfy, colorful swings during a recent visit to our store.



CHOOSE A SUMMER FOUNTAIN

Fountains have been the focal points of grand gardens, cities, and homes around the globe for centuries. The appearance and sound of splashing water from a fountain, whether large or small, is unbeatable for soothing souls and relaxing indoors or outside in the garden retreat.

An ideal location for a two tiered fountain could be



in an island flower bed or a vignette visible from indoors, water bubbling out of the top finial and gently spilling over the upper bowl below, creating a soothing trickling sound. The moving water usually attracts birds; the flowing water sound and the birds' songs enhance the ambiance of the garden retreat, adding more life in a very peaceful way.

Nestled into a cool, shady garden setting among



feathery ferns and yews, a shorter, more diminutive, fountain will make a delightful surprise for visitors. Once you incorporate moving water into the garden, you will not want to be without it. Many customers have more than one fountain in their gardens to add the element of water throughout various garden areas.



A favorite of many, the real birds find it easy to drink from the top of this fountain, standing shoulder to shoulder among the stone birds. Filled with cool fresh water, tucked under a shade tree, this is a bird's ideal fountain; you can just sit back and watch.

HELP START OUR GARDEN CLUB

It has been enthusiastically suggested that a Wilshire Garden Market Garden Club be established. It will be established with the goal of being educational, entertaining, and to further the establishment of many more beautiful gardens in Oklahoma.

Quarterly seminars, field trips, and garden tours will be offered, as well as other benefits to be determined by the members.

If you would like to be a founding member of the yet unnamed garden club, please email your suggestion for a garden club name, your name, and email address to gardenclub@wilshiregardenmarket.com with the subject line "Name the Garden Club"

Our first meeting will be held at the store at a date to be announced by email to subscribers in June, and will consist of a perennial swap and announcement of the winner of the Garden Club Name Contest.

We plan to take at least two field trips a year and share gardening information, plants and seeds. We are certain that it will take us to many interesting places.

There is no obligation. Please join in!



ROSE IS FLOWER OF THE MONTH

The most popular flower in the world, the rose certainly deserves its own month. It is even the national flower of England.



The red rose symbolizes love, respect, and courage. 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. The pink rose symbolizes grace and perfect happiness. Dark pink symbolizes gratitude; light pink, admiration.



Recently inspired by pictures of my late grandmother's roses (her high school job was deadheading acres of roses in my uncle's Enid nursery), we have been researching ways to grow the most healthy, vigorous roses. Encouraged by an English source who claimed roses love clay soil, we pressed on.

When planting a new rose, dig a large hole, at least the size of the mature rose's width. In the bottom of the hole, make a mound of garden soil and compost; some say to include a banana peel and used tea bag for potassium and a bit of acid; it can't hurt. Spread the rose roots over the mound and continue filling to just below the root junction. Water in **thoroughly and slowly**. Do not step on the rose roots to secure them in the soil, you might crush the roots and do more damage than good.

In early spring, feed one rounded Tablespoon of rose food per square foot of space around the bush. Then feed again when blooms start to appear. Organic fish emulsion is a healthy fertilizer for roses and virtually everything; I have been using that and dicing used banana peels, sprinkling a quart or more a week around my roses as well. They are showing their appreciation with dark green shiny foliage and many blooms.

One to two inches of mulch should be applied 2 or 3 weeks before roses come into bloom. Keep mulch away from the trunk of the rose to prevent bacterial infection. Snip off low growing leaves so that rain or other water cannot splash up onto the leaves and

cause mildew and black spot. Regular early morning spraying with a recommended rose spray will help keep your rose disease and pest free. Roses, especially new roses, require 1-2 inches of water twice a week, not sprinkler water on the leaves, but soaking water.

Many roses are ideal for growing in containers, allowing us to have color and fragrance nearly anywhere. A rough planting guide is a 14"-16" pot will accommodate a 3' H x 3'W rose. Larger roses will require a 20" - 22" container. To maintain health and vigor, remove the rose and replace the soil or compost every three years or so.

Roses grown on iron arbors, rose domes, umbrellas, or trellises provide beautiful vertical interest in the garden. Our arbors, trellises and rose domes are made locally and are always readily available at Wilshire Garden Market. Custom orders are welcome. Fear not, we will grow great roses!



A SURVIVOR ROSE

Just as Oklahoma City has its survivor elm tree at the National Memorial, there is a Hurricane Katrina survivor rose. Following is a brief synopsis of an article in Southern Living Magazine written by Gene Russell, and sources where this survival rose can be purchased on line.

Katrina took almost everything from Peggy Martin. Her parents, Rosalie and Pivon Dupuy, fell victim to the storm. The storm flooded everything in the Phoenix, Louisiana home where Peggy and her husband, M.J., had raised their two sons. The saltwater rose over 20 feet and covered everything for more than two weeks. Peggy's parents had purchased the 12 acres in the 1950's. Ancient live oaks draped in Spanish moss adorned the landscape; the air was perfumed by nearby citrus groves. Peggy had planted a beautiful garden with 450 old roses. Of all these, only one would survive and it would play a role in bringing back the gardens of the coast.

When the waters receded, Peggy and M.J. found mud and blackened stems where the garden had been. But then she spied a bit of green growth and recognized it as a rose she had planted by the shed. The rose is an 18 year old thornless rambler with long arching canes and showy pink flowers. It was given to Peggy as a pass along cutting from a friend who had received it the same way. That cutting came from a garden in New Orleans. No one in the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society knew its name.



It is a big rose that needs room and it just keeps blooming, heavily in the spring, sporadically in summer, again in the fall. Its long canes root when they touch the ground. Another friend who received a cutting of this rose was Dr. Bill Welch, a rosarian and horticulturist at Texas A&M. After Katrina struck, an idea hit him in the middle of the night. The 'Peggy Martin' rose could be used to raise money to restore gardens on the ravaged Gulf Coast. He took his idea to some friends at the Greater Houston Community Foundation, which now manages the fund. Peggy takes comfort in knowing that her rose is bringing back the beautiful gardens of her coast and it is a nice way to remember her parents.

The 'Peggy Martin' rose can be purchased from the following mail order nurseries:

Antique Rose Emporium 800-441-0002
www.antiqueroseemporium.com ;

Chamblee's Rose Nursery 800-256-7673
www.chamble-7673roses.com;

Petals from the Past 205-646-0069
www.petalsfromthepast.com

GARDEN TOURS INSPIRE

Remember that the Nichols Hills Garden Tour will be Saturday, June 6, with rain date of June 7. **Buy tickets to the Nichols Hills Garden Tour for \$10 at Wilshire Garden Market, \$15 at the door.** Go and be inspired!

JUNE 2009 TO DO LIST

- Keep new plants soak watered, not sprinkled.
- Mulch 2" deep around woody plants after cleaning underneath. Start several inches out from trunks.
- Patrol for weeds; they rob desired plants of water and nutrients.
- Put houseplants outdoors in the shade; feed regularly.
- Deadhead for long season bloom.
- Some perennials may need to be pruned hard to restart.
- Pinch back fall blooming Mums, Asters, Monardia.
- Stake tomato plants.
- Maintenance trims on wisteria.
- Look for diseased or dead wood and prune out.
- Spring flowering shrubs get pruned now.
- Check vine supports.
- Give flower beds a clean, defined edge.

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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GREAT GIFTS INSIDE!**

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