

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

October, 2009 Newsletter

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CELEBRATING 12 YEARS

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Established 1997

BEAUTIFUL, TIMELESS GARDEN ACCESSORIES

Our recent trip to the Campania International factory and showroom in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania, was again educational and productive; the subsequent visit to the Morris Arboretum at the University of Pennsylvania was very interesting as any gardener might imagine. At Campania, we selected the core of next year's cast stone and glazed terra cotta inventory, and we are eager to receive our finds. We selected some repeat styles representing classic simplicity as well as some new elegantly ornate cast stone and some unique pieces of beautifully glazed terra cotta.



The Smithsonian Collection is being introduced this year, inspired by the impressive historic garden furnishings found in the museum's "outdoor museum". From rustic to ornate, these pieces from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century showcase the golden age of

garden embellishment and our country's rich garden heritage. We will soon have a number of these fabulous containers; they will be excellent complements for homes with historic styles.

Campania has introduced acid stains, a complex process developed over time with worker safety and the environment in mind. The acid etches the color into the surface of the cast stone, reacting slightly differently with elements of each piece, resulting in a depth of color and individual character.

Glazed terra cotta containers have proven their winter durability, adding visual interest and versatility for home and garden. We have purchased new styles and sizes to complement current favorites from simple to rustic to ornate.



The square daisy planters above are conveniently sized to hold fresh annuals for the center of a dining table or to hold napkins on a buffet.

Large containers with clean lines and beautiful glazes are often ideal for holding mature tropical plants indoors. Outdoors, they can easily be featured simply as a focal point, planted or unplanted, placed near the corners of a pool to echo the color of tiles or water, or to hold a specimen plant.



Our many beautiful and functional containers can easily transform

your garden from a vision into reality. Like a great tie or handbag, attractive containers are the finishing touch to the exterior of your home.

FABULOUS FALL CONTAINERS

The beginning of fall always prompts homeowners to look at their homes with a critical eye. It is time to transform outdoor areas by adding beautiful containers or change the appearance of containers to reflect the season. Look to your home or outdoor décor for inspiration; color, shape, texture, and your own personal taste in containers will be deciding factors in the selection.



Transform containers by removing overgrown summer plant materials and adding plants that will be harmonious with the autumn leaves and light. Yellow and gold reflect fall sunlight; a new amber glazed terra cotta container would create cohesion with the above planting.



Get creative and mix perennials, annuals, grasses, and ground covers, and even small evergreens; mix ferny foliage with bold, thick, ruffled, and strappy

foliage that will enhance and compliment the containers. Compose the vignette as you buy the plants; to make a great planting, remember the thriller, filler, and spiller concept.



The color scheme also can be related to the common color wheel using complimentary, analogous, or monochromatic colors. Colors next to each other on the color wheel such as blues and purples have a calm appearance and look well in fall light. The plants above would also be beautiful in a stone container or an antique jade glazed terra cotta planter.



This beautiful image is from Longshadow Products, producers of fine hand made dry cast limestone planters. We have used their planters to accessorize the entrance to the Skirvin Hotel, among others. Design, installation, and photography are by John Staab, Landscape Architect with the Brickman Group, Long Grove, IL. His composition in this fabulous planter is exemplary.

Enjoy the beauty of fall in your garden!

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE

Just in, autumn and everyday flour sack tea towels. These tea towels have incredible absorbency and



provide a streak free finish; their designs are adorable. For fall, there is a selection of pumpkin, harvest image and soup recipe, acorn and leaves swag, and retro fall

graphic. Everyday tea towels include a wine or cheese vignette; they can be paired with our melamine cheese boards for a tasteful gift. These tea towels make great hostess and friend gifts or small indulgence for you.



A fall garden flag or pillow is an easy way to make a seasonal change. Garden and standard flags are available in autumn, Halloween, and Thanksgiving motifs. It was interesting to notice that most homes in Pennsylvania display these flags.

Bring the scent of fall into your home with

our candles and reed diffusers. The hand poured beeswax candles contain botanicals and fragrances of spicy apple, bitter orange spice, and new sweet bay.

A portion of profits from the sweet bay candles benefits Wild B.I.R.D., a nonprofit bird rehabilitation facility and other worthwhile animal protection causes.



Our weather resistant outdoor pillows reflect the season with their autumn tones and images of flowers, falling leaves and gourds, monarch butterflies, cocoa stripes, or Halloween whimsy.



Bring art to your door. Hand made by local artisans, our exclusive metal sculpture pumpkin sets are fashioned with a built in candle saucer. Generous in size, they are an artistic way to celebrate the harvest season.

GARDEN TOUR SATURDAY

The Oklahoma Horticulture Society will hold its annual **Garden Tour for Connoisseurs** on **Saturday, October 3 from 9:00 -4:00.**

Seven gorgeous gardens from several neighborhoods will be featured, five of which are owner designed.

Vendors, including Wilshire Garden Market, will have retail booths at garden #7, Jennifer and Hugh Stout's garden. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. **Buy tickets at Wilshire Garden Market.**

Come see us there and at the store.

A BED FOR ZOE

For years we have been attempting to find a good recycling opportunity for the fluffy excelsior packing material that we receive in our orders from Campania International. After researching its cleanliness and environmental suitability, The Oklahoma City Zoo was able to accept the material.



This (left) is a portrait of Zoe, a young chimpanzee raised by humans at the Oklahoma City Zoo, at four months of age. Zoe's mother, Chloe, died of complications just before Zoe was to be born. Fortunately, Zoe survived and will soon celebrate her first birthday. Recently, Laura Bottaro, Curator of Mammals, invited

us to see Zoe and the Zoo facility with our excelsior in use. Cute Zoe was curious about our camera.



Go see Zoe and her family, the new Oklahoma Trails exhibit, and learn about the other impressive new areas being developed at the Zoo.

We and Campania are delighted that we can provide bedding material for Zoe, her chimpanzee family, and others. Keepin' it Green!

A WORD ABOUT FALL PRUNING

The word is "Don't ". Fall is not a good time of year to prune. Heading back branches in the fall stimulates growth in the buds that formed during the summer. Because the new growth won't have time to harden off before cold weather arrives, it can freeze or be damaged seriously. Limit pruning chores to the removing of dead branches or to doing only very minor thinning.

OCTOBER 2009 TO DO LIST

- Plant trees and shrubs.
- Collect dried seeds from flowers or veggies.
- Make sure all vacationing houseplants are checked for pests before bringing them back indoors.
- Plant cool season annuals.
- Cover water gardens with screen or netting to keep out falling leaves.
- It is a great time to divide overgrown perennials.
- Add compost to garden beds.
- Order bulbs if you have not done so.
- Make seasonal changes to outdoor décor.

INTERESTING FACTS

The French bistro furniture found in our store is also being seen in more and more interesting places all around the world and the U.S. It just appeared in the wedding scene of the movie *Julie and Julia*, the chairs and tables are used at Duke and Harvard Universities, Kate Spade's showroom, in the Art Institute of Chicago, and in many parks in NYC and in bistros of France, where they are made.

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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WELCOME FALL!

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