

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

September 2005 Newsletter  
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Established 1997

## A BEAUTIFUL FALL HOME AND GARDEN

September is really Indian summer and the beginning of heat dormancy recovery. After having acclimated to the heat, gardeners are going back outdoors to discover which plants have gone on to a better place, which unfortunately is from their garden. Don't despair, even professionals have admitted to losing plants due to, let's say, a misinterpretation of drought tolerance. This is a good time to contemplate what plants thrive where.

Get out there, clip, edge, water, fertilize, and await the delight of "a high in the 80's". Give your home your own "curb appeal evaluation" from the street. Evaluate again at the front door, where guests enter. Remove garden litter or items left behind by family members. Bring out a new seasonal doormat. For the short term, prune leggy, shapeless plants in entry containers to bring back their form and feed them with liquid fertilizer to encourage a resurgence of leaf color and blooms. If a plant has died, remove it and cover the area with a bit of fresh mulch until it can be replaced. A clean, empty planter looks better than a tortured plant.

Take stock of containers both on the doorstep and patio; make sure they are large enough and are in good condition. If they dried out too quickly during the summer, perhaps they are too small. If the container is too small, plants will bake in the summer heat and likewise will freeze in the winter. Plants will fare better in larger pots where there is a cushion of soil between the roots and the wall of the container.

For proper drainage, most containers should be supported by pot feet or risers of some sort. In hot months, elevating a planter provides air circulation below, eliminating stains from mildew and fluorescence. In cold months, adequate drainage can prevent cracking caused by the expansion of trapped frozen water.

Trim back overgrown perennials, deciduous shrubs, and evergreens. Feed trees and shrubs for great results next year. Find crystals that can

be spread underneath and watered in. Feed annuals so that they will have rich color and blooms in their final days. Remove debris such as broken twigs and dried leaves from the lawn and garden. Cool season lawns should be over seeded annually. Aerate the lawn if over seeding with fescue. Do NOT apply pre-emergent if you are over seeding. Bring back definition to the garden by exposing garden accents such as stepping stones that have been obliterated by soil, plants, and grass.

Replace or add outdoor throw pillows or cushions in colors that reflect the season. Use turquoise, aqua, moss, burgundy, fuchsia, purple, and pink as fall colors, not just gold, orange, red, and brown.

Go beyond Chrysanthemums; new varieties of pansies and interesting frost tolerant plants are being introduced this fall. Inspired with a few new ideas, anyone can create beautiful autumn containers that might last throughout the winter months.



Easily turn summer planters into striking fall and winter planters. Remove summer annuals, and, leaving the trailing ivy, combine several young conifers with icicle pansies in a favorite color for a beautiful cold hardy planter.

Combine young evergreens, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, Violas, Icicle Pansies, Dianthus, Kale, Lambs Ears, Icicle plant, Dusty Miller, and Curry in various combinations to make attractive fall containers.

Fall is truly the best gardening season of the year.

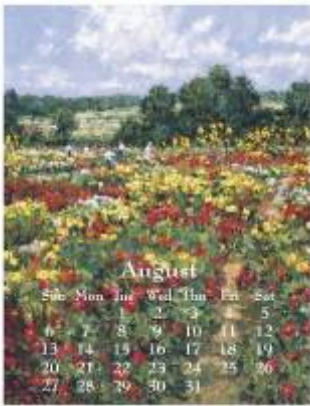


## WHAT'S NEW

Wilshire Garden Market will be carrying the framed garden theme wall and desk calendars by Linnea Designs, Four Seasons, and Susan Wallace Barnes, formerly carried by Arthur Graham's. Owner Bill Hayes was kind to pass on this popular item to us and we appreciate the opportunity to provide them to the many people who like to

give them as gifts. The calendars will be available in early September.

Taken from oil paintings by Peter Rolfe, the Four Seasons calendars get their name from the fact that



Peter likes to get outside and paint in every season. Most of the charming paintings depict New England vignettes throughout the year.

Susan Wallace Barnes makes her home on a coastal meadow (pity her misfortune) at the south end of California's Carmel Bay. Her inspiration comes from travels to Nova Scotia, the Sea of Cortez in Baja, Nantucket Island, Maui, Alaska, and British Columbia. She whimsically portrays scenes of home and garden at leisure.



Look forward to changing the picture on the first day of each new month or hang all 12 at once all year long for a wall full of wit and whimsy. These calendars are often given as corporate gifts, for family, or group exchanges as a gift that will be remembered all year long.

Finally the outdoor art is here! Outdoor art is one more element of the growing national trend of outdoor living and exterior decorating. These pieces are being mistaken for canvases; however they are a composite aluminum. Available in numerous images in styles from tradi-

tional, southwest, contemporary, and oriental, there is a painting suitable for every garden.

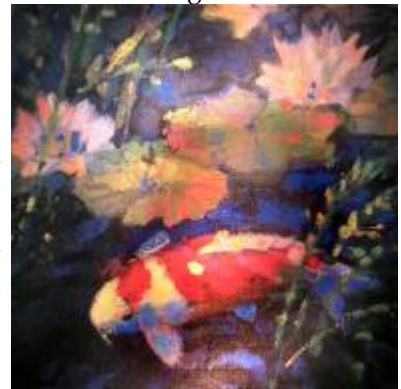


These art pieces are the perfect solution for homeowners who have large blank walls or walls covered in ivy. When mounted in the midst of a wall, an optical illusion of depth occurs, making it seem that there is also a garden behind the wall.

Even when the real garden is not looking its best, the garden in the painting will! Imagine a peaceful Koi painting hanging outdoors covered in raindrops.

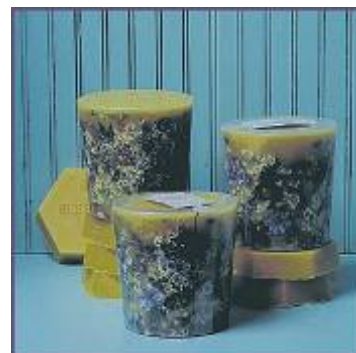
The paintings have a fastening band attached to the back where they can be bolted to the wall or to their own special easel. Easels are available as display stands; they have either attachable ground stakes or

a platform base that would hold a large planter for weight. The paintings have been chamber tested to withstand the elements for at least 20 years. Sizes range from 24" x 24" to 18" x 44", and 32" x 44".



How pleasant it would be to look *outside* to the garden wall every day and see a favorite painting looking beautiful, rain or shine.

Arriving this week are fabulous fragrant botanical candles, a hand poured beeswax blend with real



fruit slices, spices, and wildflowers. Simple yet stunning, they are long burning and extremely fragrant without being overpowering. This line will make wonderful gifts as well as beautiful home accent pieces.

## FALL OUTDOORS

September is the month of change and migration. It



is fun to watch the butterflies, especially Monarchs, floating around perennials and annuals. If you are lucky, flocks of them will hang in your trees like living

shingles, resting for a day or two before moving on toward California and Mexico. To find more information, go to [MonarchButterfly.org](http://MonarchButterfly.org).

Hummingbirds also make their migratory appearance southward in September

or October at the latest. A customer recently rescued a hummingbird from the strong web of the Orb Weaver spider. Hummingbirds are actually carnivores; they eat flies, only drinking nectar to fuel their fly catching ability.



They leave on their migration when their food is the most plentiful. It is not necessary to take down feeders to make them leave; they will just go nearby for food and may not return to your yard next year.

## FOOTBALL ACCESSORIES

College football season is just around the corner.



OU's first game is on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sooner fans here, but you've gotta love that OSU basketball). Now in stock are new collegiate stones engraved with

"Sooner Magic" "Sooners Rock", and "OU"; OSU Cowboys stones will be available soon. Collegiate flags and spinners are expected in early September.

These make good gifts for the hard to buy for Sooner fans, couple housewarmings, or just to get your home ready for Watch Party season! Arriving at Wilshire Garden Market during the first week of September will be crimson tail gate back packs filled with everything necessary to make comfortable twosome or foursome settings; a wine bottle caddy is also included.



## SEPTEMBER TO DO LIST

- Fertilize roses and annuals for the last time.
- Discontinue fertilizing mums and perennials.
- Feed trees and large shrubs.
- Water lawns two inches per week.
- Water azaleas thoroughly and regularly.
- Deadhead perennials and annuals.
- Plant or over seed cool season grasses.
- Order bulbs.
- Take down and clean out birdhouses.

## SEMINAR SERIES 2005

These seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. and are one hour in length, with time for questions at the conclusion. The fee is \$10 per person; seating is somewhat limited, so call now to reserve a space. There are two seminars remaining in the 2004/2005 series; keep an eye out for the 2005-2006 seminar series being announced soon. Door prizes are given at each seminar. Please join us!

Fri., Sep. 16 Linda Vater "Container Gardening"  
Sat., Oct. 15 Linda Vater "Bulbs"

## EXTERIOR DECORATING

This year give yourself a garden retreat, or refresh the one you have. In response to repeated requests, Wilshire Garden Market now provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment and for a 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 more details or to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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