

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

Winter, 2014 Newsletter  
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CELEBRATING 17 YEARS

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Established 1997

## REMEMBERING A YEAR IN THE GARDEN

Unlike many recent Januaries, it is doubtful if anyone can now find a single blooming daffodil in their garden. Thankfully, the cold weather has given way to moderation. In the meantime, our spirits are lifted by the precious minute more of sunlight we receive each day. For now, we are ordering delightful garden accessories and reviewing the past year's photo collection to remind us all how nice it will be to get out in the garden again!



A Valentine treat is always fun, whether it be a pillow, fragrant heart soaps, heart shaped planter or birdbath. This year's treats are on their way, as well as the cutest new spring pillows ever!

Life is a collection of beautiful moments and memories. Remember just how wonderful tulips, daffodils, and pansies smell? Thriller, filler, spiller; you can create a beautiful spring planter like this one from last year.



Speaking of the perfume of springtime flowers, this Snow Princess has the sweetest fragrance; the bees and butterflies love it. When the sun is warm, the entire patio smells wonderful. You can always add a bunny to a spring

container planting.



Notice the visual impact of the woven recycled plastic outdoor rug on this patio. It added depth and richness, giving casual elegance to the space, making it inviting. Without the rug, there would be only hard brick flooring and walls, rather severe surroundings in which to try to relax. Large plants, rugs, and pillows in compatible colors add the softness needed to make an outdoor retreat visually appealing and truly comfortable.



It is always exciting when the new season's pillows arrive.. There is nothing like having them in person to discover fine details. With approximately 100 new designs released each January from which to choose, we want almost all of them; the task is daunting but fun.



Putting together pillows, rugs, and container combinations often yields amazing discoveries. The separate vendors have no connection, but their products can be blended into some of the most beautiful vignettes to complement a home and garden. It is a pleasure to work with each of these companies because their products are both attractive and made to last.



Our Sunbrella kiosk and fabric swatch book made it easy to find the right upholstery fabric for outdoor furniture and to coordinate containers, rugs, and accent pillow on the spot.



In early spring the wisteria blooms were covered in ice; we were very pessimistic about the potential for blooms. We had no reason to worry; the blooms were undamaged and have never been so profuse. Customers came by just to take their own photographs and inhale the fabulous fragrance. Looking forward, we pruned the wisteria in mid-December, hoping for a repeat.

Spring seems to show off all containers, statuary, just about everything in the garden. The mild temperatures and rainfall keep the garden fresh.



As spring progresses, we frequent many sources to find the best blooming plants. We enjoy creating vignettes at the store and at customers' homes by combining rugs, pillows, containers, and flowers.



Through patio consultations, we enjoy helping customers with their pool and patio dilemmas, such as coordinating a pool tile to outdoor furniture cushions and pillows.



Refurbishing several adjacent outdoor seating areas, a talented customer combined grey stripes, block prints, charcoal, and black fabrics, some with outdoor fringe; the outcome was striking.

We liked the cool colors in this rug, container combination.

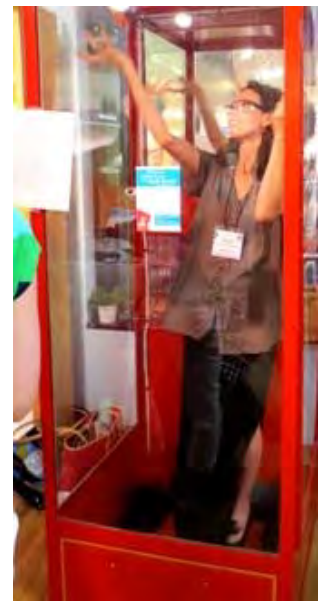


Summer means Market in Atlanta. This huge permanent Ferris wheel was constructed in downtown Centennial Park. We watched its progress as we walked by, more cars being added daily until the last day, when it was moving with riders.



The above Market showroom is known for handing out Haagen-Dazs ice cream bars. This year they also gave dancing lessons with music so loud it could be heard two floors away.

Another Market showroom always hosts a crazy event that draws long lines of willing participants. Last year it was digging for diamonds; this year it was catching flying dollar bills and coupons for gifts in The Cash Booth, complete with security guard. The most interesting part was the 6' man standing nearby wearing a Maurice Sendak-like furry hat with horns: just a buyer.



Following Market, we made our annual trip to Pennsylvania and the Campania factory and showroom where we spent a day or more ordering our containers, fountains, and statuary. As a treat to ourselves, we collaborate with our rep Maribeth to find and visit a national garden treasure in the region. This time we visited the DuPont Estate, Winterthur, in Delaware.



This was the most beautiful Japanese maple tree we have ever seen; it was ancient. We appreciated their trees that have survived for hundreds of years due to plenty of rain, few tornados or ice storms, nor indiscriminant utility crew butchers.



In addition to gardens, they display their collection of soup tureens donated by the Campbell Soup Company family. The collection of antique soup tureens is extensive and unique, housed in a special gallery of glass walled rooms.

This August was rather pleasant; however most of us are usually ready for a change of scenery with cool, crisp days and new autumn merchandise!



When an ice storm arrived in December, it left every surface coated. The canopy of the gazebo sported 300 real icicles, magnifying the lights' sparkle and casting a glow over the patio, an unexpected decoration.



We look toward 2014 and the arrival of spring with its pastel colors! In case you are wondering, the Pantone color of the year is Radiant Orchid.



Garden gifts make great Valentine's Day gifts! Start with scented heart soaps in *orchid* or pink, a heart shaped cast stone bird bath or planter, Joyce Chen red-handled scissors, pink or floral garden gloves, a garden flag, Valentine tea towels, fairy garden accessories, and more.



In a very short time, you will be able to add a beautiful touch of spring to your garden and patio. Our new spring pillows will arrive soon with dozens of new styles, including this appealing image of birds on a garden bench.

## WINTER TO DO LIST

- Start seeds indoors or seed shop.
- Take inventory of unused seeds; some may still be viable.
- Review 2013's notes on anything to do differently. No notes?! Take some this year; we have cute journals with pockets for seeds and graph paper for sketching.
- Plan to add, subtract, or divide plants in the garden.
- Plant daffodil and tulip bulbs, but hurry.
- Check plants stored in the garage. Water.
- Water grass and garden while the temperature is above freezing.
- Look forward to spring and the spring fever it brings.
- Measure patio for outdoor rugs.
- Shop for new Campania pots and have them delivered now.
- Scope out places for new spring pillows.

## EXTERIOR DECORATING

Are you in need of some inspiration for your entryway or patio? Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating and small space design consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit and follow-up report to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store at 405-879-1121 to set up an appointment.



**Let us help you create your outdoor living room!**

