

PETALS

LOVELAND GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER VOLUME 18, NUMBER 6 February 2018

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Have you been wondering how you can become more active in your garden club? We have some great opportunities. The plant sale is about 3 months away and we need volunteers. Working at the plant sale is fun and a great way to make new friends in the club. For those of you who are new to the club, the plant sale is like a mini carnival. There are plants, of course, but also numerous vendors, a band, a silent auction, a bake sale, and in past years a garage sale.

Donna, one of the Plant Sale Committee Chairs, will be asking for volunteers at our February meeting. Sign-up sheets will be available, so please consider volunteering for one or more duties. Also, everyone is welcome at the Plant Sale Committee meetings, so hopefully we will see many new faces at the next committee meeting.

At the past couple of meetings, we have discussed the Friend of the Club Award. Please see the January minutes for more information. I would like to make a final decision about this at our February meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING / HOSTS AND PROGRAM

February 21, 2018 All Saints Episcopal Church, Lvld.
"Fruit Growing Challenges on the Front Range" Walt Rosenberg – Owner of Masonville Orchards

Hosts – Leisje Lehman, Donna Drevdahl, Andrea Dunn, Bill Hamlin, Jacque Gustafson

BIRTHDAYS IN THE CLUB

Leisje Lehman 2-5

Susan Whitfield 2-20

Helen Koch 2-8

Marilyn Tuohy 2-22

Judy Bivens 2-18

EVENTS IN NORTHERN COLORADO MONTH-13 ~ MONTH-13

Feb 24 – March 4 Colorado Garden and Home Show Location: Colorado Convention Center in Denver Time: Sat. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon. - Thurs. Noon - 7 p.m., Fri. Noon - 8 p.m.

Tickets: Adults \$12, Seniors \$10, Kids 12 & under free; Monday - Thursday 2 for 1 admission

Information: Visit www.coloradogardenfoundation.org for more information about parking, seminars, ticket discounts, etc.

Feb. 10 "Pruning Basics for Shrubs & Small Trees" by Tom Throgmorton Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 pm; Fee: \$18; Register for this class online at www.fortcollinsnursery.com. 970-482-1984.

- Feb. 10 "Seeing & Thinking Like a Landscape Designer" by Robyn Dolgin Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 pm; Fee: \$18; Register for this class online at www.fortcollinsnursery.com. 970-482-1984
- Feb. 10 "Making Ricotta Cheese" by Connie Meyer The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$30; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online.
- Feb. 10 "Intensive Vegetable Gardening in Small Spaces" by Susan Bonsall The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Feb. 17 "Native Plants for Bees, Butterflies & Beauty" by Pat Hayward Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 pm; Fee: \$18; Register for this class online at www.fortcollinsnursery.com. 970-482-1984
- Feb. 17 "Totally Terrific Tomatoes" by Kathy Hatfield Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 pm; Fee: \$18; Register for this class online at www.fortcollinsnursery.com. 970-482-1984
- Feb. 17 "Turf Selection, Installation and Maintenance Demystified" by Jason Brown The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Feb. 17 "Tasting Teas of the World" by George Grossman The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$25; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Feb. 24 "Grow Your Own Veggies" by Mary Miller The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Feb. 24 "Planting for Pollinators" by Kelly Kellow The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$10; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Mar. 3 "Introduction to Wildflowers of the Front Range" a CoNPS workshop presented by Mo Ewing Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Contact Station, 6550 Gateway Rd., Commerce City; Time: 9 - 11:30 am; Fee: \$20 for non-members of the CO Native Plant Society; For details and to register please see onps.org/mfm-event-calendar.
- Mar. 3 "Ornamental Grasses for the Home Garden" by Pam Brown The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Mar. 3 "Water-wise Landscape Basics" by Katie Collins The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$10; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online
- Mar. 6 Free Day Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms in Littleton; Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; 720.865.4346
- Mar. 10 "High Plains Landscape Workshop" The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Event Location: Drake Center, 802 W. Drake Rd. in Fort Collins; Time: 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Fee: \$75 thru Feb. 17th, \$85 after Feb. 17.; Speakers: Dave Leatherman, Micaela Truslove, Rob Proctor and Brian Vogt; See Gardens on Spring Creek website for

details and registration information. Proceeds benefit The Gardens on Spring Creek

Mar. 17 "Beekeeping for Beginners" by Dr. Tom Cavanagh The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online

Mar. 17 "DIY Hypertufa Troughs" by Kelly Kellow The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$30, materials provided; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online

THINGS TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN THIS MONTH

If you didn't cut back perennials and clean up flower beds in the fall, begin to do these tasks later this month before new spring growth appears. If you wait too long to begin clean up tasks you are likely to damage delicate new growth

Add compost and/or other organic matter to flower beds and vegetable plots when the soil is dry and the ground isn't frozen. Be sure to mix these soil amendments thoroughly into the soil rather than leaving them as a layer on top.

If you plan to order bare-root roses, order them now and specify mid-March delivery. Bare-root roses often offer gardeners a wider selection and lower prices than are available for packaged roses and roses potted in containers. Try to buy Grade #1 roses rather than Grade #1 1/2 or Grade #2. Grade #1 roses have more canes and the canes are larger sized. If you prefer to see what you're getting and don't mind paying a bit more, wait until late spring to buy roses planted in containers at your local garden center. (or the LGC Plant Sale.

Continue winter watering. Keep in mind that snow sometimes provides little moisture. Therefore, you should check the soil for dryness. Areas with a southern or western exposure are especially likely to need water if there has been little or no snowfall.

Prune trees and shrubs, if needed, just before buds open. Remove branches that interfere with others, weak branches and ones that are growing vertical, creating a narrow crotch angle. No more than 1/4 of the branches/stems should be removed per year. Avoid topping branches (cutting off the tips) and shearing shrubs, which can lead to weakened, pest-prone plants. Application of a wound dressing is no longer recommended

Wait to prune lilacs and forsythias until after they flower. Also, wait until after they leaf out to prune maple, birch and walnut trees. These trees drip lots of sap ("bleed") if pruned during winter or early spring.

If heavy snowfall occurs this month, use a broom to lift up branches and gently shake off the snow. Don't press down on branches because this pressure plus the weight of the snow could cause them to break

If you had severe problems with aphids, scales or mites last year, you may

want to spray infested trees and shrubs with a horticultural (dormant) oil to kill over-wintering stages of these pests. Dormant oils should be applied while the plant is dormant; that is, it hasn't formed buds or leafed out. Apply the spray when the temperature is above freezing, the plants are dry, and there is no chance for rain. Be aware that some plants, for example black walnut, junipers, maples and spruce, are sensitive to oils. Carefully read and follow label instructions

As you are cleaning out storage spaces -- look for garden related items for the LGC Garage Sale

Buy non-GMO seeds (Local Botanical Interests and Lake Valley have a wide variety)

Fertilize houseplants

Start cool crops – broccoli, lettuce, snow peas

Check perennials for any roots that have heaved above ground by frost action. Gently push exposed roots back and blanket with compost.

Finish plans for garden and landscaping on paper

Brush up on horticulture – read and purge files and books

Go to a Garden show

