

PETALS

**LOVELAND GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 19, NUMBER 1
September 2018**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to a new garden club season. Our Club had an outstanding 2017-2018 season. Both the ornament sale, chaired by Penny Kragie, and the plant sale, chaired by Donna Drevdahl and Michael Walter, far surpassed our expectations. I am very thankful for all the members who helped with these fund raisers. Through your efforts we were able to support several community organizations, give three scholarships and plant two trees in Loveland.

I think 2018-2019 will be equally great. Linda Macarthur has found some very interesting speakers, presenting topics such as; "How to Grow Micro-Greens", "What's Going on With Our Bees" and "The Meaning of Flowers". Our September speaker is Alison O'Connor, the Larimer County CSU Extension Horticulture Agent. Alison, who is a great speaker, will be talking about "Garden Hacks".

The upcoming season will also provide many ways for you to become more actively involved in your club. The Executive Board has reorganized the plant sale, and this reorganization will allow for more member involvement. In May we will be electing a new Board and new committee chairs. Serving on the Board or chairing a committee can be a very rewarding experience. I hope all of you will consider volunteering for a leadership position. Being more active in your club is a wonderful way to make new friends and give back to your community.

I look forward to seeing you at our September meeting. Barb Near

NEXT MEETING / HOSTS AND PROGRAM

"Gardening Hacks" with Allison O'Connor, All Saints Episcopal Church, 3448 N Taft

BIRTHDAYS IN THE CLUB

Donna Drevdahl	9-6	Janice Giachino	9-26
Barbara Near	8-31	Jo Struempler	9-26

NOTES

Hopefully you have received the "Rocky Mountain Rambler" and the "Colorado Garden Connection" during the summer. These are from the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs (of which we are a member) and have interesting and useful information. New members may request one from me or another "veteran" member. (beajay1@hotmail.com) You will get the next one from the editors of each publication.

EVENTS IN NORTHERN COLORADO September-13 ~ October-13

Ongoing Read and Seed The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 to 10:45 a.m. or 11 - 11:45 a.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays; A drop-in

program for 2 - 4 year olds; Story time plus a hands-on activity; Parents are asked to participate; Fee: \$3 per child; See <http://fcgov.com/horticulture> for information on weekly topics; 970-416-2486.

- Sept 12 Loveland Library Fall Gardening Series, CSU Extension, 2PM Loveland Library, 300 N Adams, Free lovelandpubliclibrary.org
- Sept. 15 "Foraging Rocky Mountain Mushrooms: Regional Mushroom ID" by Zach Hedstrom. Harlequin's Gardens, 4795 N. 26th St. in Boulder; Time: 1 p.m.; Fee: \$15; Pre-register by calling 303-939-9403
- Sept. 15 "Urban Homesteading for Beginners" by Connie Meyer 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.
- Sept 16 "Pruning for Strength, Health and Beauty" by Mikl Brawner Harlequin's Gardens, 4795 N. 26th St. in Boulder; Time: 1 p.m.; Fee: \$15; (Repeat of Aug. 5th class); Pre-register by calling 303-939-9403
- Sept 16 "Classic Miniature Gardening" Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm; Fee: \$40 per spot, includes materials; For adults and a child accompanied by an adult; Register for this class online at www.fortcollinsnursery.com. 970-482-1984.
- Sept 22 Gold Leaf Terracotta Pot w/Succulent, Gulley Greenhouse 6029 S Shields \$25 gulleygreenhouse.com
- Sept 29 "Backyard Composting" by Cassie Anderson 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.
- Sept 29 "Autumn Guided Forest Walk" by Maria Fenty The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online.
- Sept 29 Countertop Herb Garden Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S Shields, \$30 gulleygreenhouse.com
- Sept 29 Oktoberfest, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E Prospect Rd (FC) bathgardencenter.com
- Oct 6 "Photographing Fall Color" by Bob Dean 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.
- Oct 6 "Fall Care for Native Plants" by Ann Grant The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$10; Call 970-416-2486 to register

or register online.

- Oct 13 Giant Pumpkin Weigh-off and Fall Jamboree Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 East Mulberry in Fort Collins; Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm; ; See www.fortcollinsnursery.com for details. 970-482-1984.
- Oct 13 "Habitat Hero Garden" by Diane Banta The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$10; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online.
- Oct 13 "Putting the Garden to Bed" by Andrea Vanderbilt The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 1 - 3 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486.

Corn Mazes and Pumpkin Patches

With the arrival of autumn, several corn mazes and pumpkin patches will open. Most places offer a number of fun activities for the family. For details visit the Colorado Proud website at www.coloradoproud.org later this month. Scroll to "For Consumers" and click on Agritourism Activities and then on Corn Mazes/Pumpkin Patches.

Flower Trials

Don't miss the beautiful flower trial gardens in Fort Collins this month. Located on College Ave. and Lake St., the annuals garden features hundreds of plants being grown and evaluated by the CSU horticulture department in conjunction with the green industry. You will find bedding plants, containers, shade plants and sun plants. Flower trials for perennials are across the street. Be sure to take your camera! The site is open to the public and is free. For information see www.flowertrials.colostate.edu.

Colorado Proud

For recipes, a Colorado crop calendar, information on farmer's markets, and a list of agritourism events (agricultural festivals, fairs, etc.) visit www.coloradoproud.org.

Feed the Needy

As you harvest your vegetable garden this year, you are encouraged to donate some of the vegetables to local food banks.

Butterflies Are Coming

The Gardens on Spring Creek, City of Fort Collins and Butterfly Pavilion have announced a partnership to build a butterfly house. The 1700 square foot conservatory, which is scheduled to open in 2019, will be located at the Gardens on Spring Creek Visitor Center. It will feature numerous plants as well as free-flying butterflies.

CSU Extension Gardening Blog

Get expert gardening information at <http://www.csuhort.blogspot.com>. You will find articles on a wide variety of topics by Colorado State University Extension horticulture agents and specialists.

Gardening Webinars

Can't make it to gardening classes but want gardening information from a local expert? Check out the gardening videos on Tagawa Gardens' webinar page at www.tagawagardens.com

CSU Extension Service answers gardening questions by e-mail. Go to www.ext.colostate.edu and click on "Ask an Expert" in the menu. You may also call your county's CSU Extension Service office with questions.

Most garden centers have expert, experienced staff who can provide gardening

advice. Some garden centers also offer diagnostic centers where you can bring in samples of unhealthy plants.

THINGS TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN THIS MONTH

Check out the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden at FC City Hall, 300 Laporte Ave.



Time is running out for planting hardy perennials. They should be planted no less than one month before the first fall frost, which usually occurs during the first week of October along the Front Range.



You may still plant colchicum, a fall-blooming bulb, during this month. Plant the bulbs two inches deep. Colchicum is a nice companion for other fall-blooming plants such as asters and mums.



Did you have trouble with geranium (tobacco) budworms eating petunias, nicotianas or geraniums in your containers this summer? If so, think twice about storing the potting soil for re-use next year. Budworms over-winter as pupas in the soil. Temperatures below 20 degrees F. will kill them. However, if we have a mild winter or if you store the potting soil in a shed or garage that stays warm, the pupas will survive.



Now is the time to buy spring-flowering bulbs, such as daffodil, tulip, crocus and hyacinth bulbs. Select bulbs that are large, undamaged and free from mold, soft spots or signs of disease. Plant bulbs in late September or early October so their roots can become well established before the arrival of cold weather.



Remove new shoots starting to grow at the base of rose bushes and cut off spent blooms right below the flower rather than at a 5-leaflet leaf. Taking these steps will reduce production of new growth, thereby helping to prevent freeze injury to the rose bush



In order to prepare plants for winter dormancy do not fertilize them in the fall and reduce watering. This will cause plants to slow production of new growth that is easily damaged by autumn frost.



Be sure to take advantage of sales at garden centers this month. While spring is the best time to plant trees and shrubs in Colorado, fall is considered the second best time to plant. However, you should avoid planting evergreens in fall because they tend to dry out during the fall and winter months, and then die.

Gardening is cheaper than therapy and you get tomatoes!!!