



# GROW

Tulsa Garden Center News

## In This Issue

Volume 63 Issue 5

- 2 Note from the Director
- 3 Gardening by the Book
- 4 & 6 Education
- 4-5 Affiliate News
- 7 March Calendar

## Spotlight

**Tulsa Perennial Club  
"Perennials & More" Sale**

Saturday, May 5th,  
9:00am-2:00pm

**Green Country Bonsai  
Society Show**

Saturday, May 12th,  
10:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, May 13th,  
11:00am-3:00pm

**Tulsa Area Iris Society  
Show & Sale**

Saturday, May 12th,  
1:00-3:00pm

Sunday, May 13th,  
1:00-3:00pm

**Tulsa Rose Society Show**

Saturday, May 19th,  
1:00pm-3:00pm

**Tulsa Garden Club  
62nd Annual Garden Tour  
Southern Blooming Charm**

Saturday, May 19th  
10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, May 20th  
12:00pm-5:00pm



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## Espalier

My first serious journey outside my home state of Louisiana was a bumpy, three day bus ride to New Bern, North Carolina to work as a summer college intern in the grand gardens of Tryon's Palace, a historic Colonial mansion built in 1770 for William Tryon, the British Royal Governor.

I was feeling homesick when I boarded the bus. And by the time it pulled into the tiny, dimly lighted New Bern bus station, I was utterly depressed.

As I stepped off the bus in the wee hours of the morning, I was sorely tempted to board the next bus back to Louisiana. The thought of spending three more days and nights on a crowded bus that stopped at every tiny town and train track across the entire South was even more depressing, however.

Reluctantly, I swung my duffle bag over my shoulder and made the early morning walk across New Bern to Tryon's Palace, arriving well before the garden's ornate iron gates officially opened. With time to kill, I slowly walked along the estate's perimeter wall, stopping often to peer into the gardens where I was to toil for the next three months.

Standing on tiptoes at one stop, I looked over the wall at a garden so beautiful it lifted my spirits and temporarily took my mind off the eggs, biscuits and red-eye gravy Mom was surely preparing in her Cajun kitchen 1,200 miles away.

I soon learned that it was the "kitchen garden," intricately laid out with red brick walks in precise geometric patterns, creating lots of charming beds to grow herbs and veggies.

Most intriguing, however, were the perfectly trained apple, peach and pear trees that grew flat against the garden's perimeter walls. Espalier, I soon learned, was the correct term for the fruit-bearing tapestries perfectly trained against the walls.

I was surprised to learn that there was

nothing new about espalier. French and English gardeners were the first to master the practice of sculpting fruit trees into beautiful flat patterns.

For instance, the king's kitchen garden (le Potagen du Roi) at Versailles, the Renaissance garden at Villandry and lots of grand English Victorian gardens all had large collections of espaliered fruit trees.

Beauty wasn't the only reason for growing fruit trees in the espalier form. Espaliers required less space, the fruit produced was easier to reach and harvest, and brick and stone walls absorbed the sun's heat, speeding the fruit-ripening process.

Lots of memories remain from my summer spent toiling in the gardens of Tryon's Palace. The horticulturist in charge was a tough, but fair, old bird. He never once smiled at me or the other interns. He was quick, however, with advice.

While we sweated under the steamy North Carolina sun, he would stand nearby (in the shade) and share his encyclopedic knowledge of art, history and horticulture, pausing only to point out our mowing, pruning and planting errors. A summer under his steady gaze made my senior year of college seem like a cakewalk.

To learn more about the fascinating art and practice of espalier, visit the Linnaeus Teaching Garden. And when you visit, check out the gorgeous new plantings of annuals donated by national companies Proven Winners, Ball Horticulture, Syngenta and our good friends at Tulsa's Southwood Landscape and Nursery.

Also, circle Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> on your calendar. That is the Linnaeus Garden 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Linnaeus volunteers will be giving away a brand new hydrangea introduction and a beautiful perennial, a twenty dollar value, to the first 300 visitors to the garden. It will be a grand day. Don't miss it!

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Barry Fugatt is Director of Horticulture at the Tulsa Garden Center and Linnaeus Teaching Garden. He can be reached at 918-746-5125 or e-mail: [bfugatt@tulsagardencenter.com](mailto:bfugatt@tulsagardencenter.com)

## TGC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Max Lee	

Tulsa *Garden Center NEWS* is published ten times a year on a monthly basis with the exception of the July/August and the December /January issues, which are combined. If you are interested in advertising in the newsletter please contact the Garden Center. The submission deadline for articles is the 8th of the month for the following month's issue.

### TGC Staff

Barbie Raney-*executive director*  
Barry Fugatt - *director of horticulture*  
Janet Gaither - *event & facility manager*  
Dorris Crawford - *head caretaker*  
Toni Alley-*administrative assistant*  
Julie Powers-*horticulture assistant*  
Dyane Lewis-*volunteer coordinator*  
Mike Blake-*Education & Marketing*

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS ?

You are an important part of our organization, and we want to keep in touch with you. If you are moving, please keep us informed by calling us at 918-746-5125 with your new information. Thank you.

**Tulsa Garden Center**  
2435 South Peoria  
Tulsa, Ok 74114-1350  
(918) 746-5125 Fax (918) 746-5128  
[www.tulsagardencenters.com](http://www.tulsagardencenters.com)



# Note from the Director



One of the greatest benefits of being a member of the Tulsa Garden Center is the opportunity to meet, learn, and grow with people who have similar interests. This is an ongoing, life-enriching benefit for all of us.

Other components of our membership benefits change along with the times and we are going to experience a few of those changes this year:

First of all, due to rising operating costs, our membership pricing will increase slightly. Beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, Individual Memberships will increase from \$25 to \$30; Family Memberships will increase from \$40 to \$50. All other membership levels will remain the same.

Secondly, we've added a couple of new benefits that we think you will enjoy:

- New and renewing members will receive a one-year subscription to *Better Homes and Gardens*. This subscription can also be used to extend an existing subscription if you are already receiving the magazine.
- We have also arranged a member discount for classes held by The Oklahoma Society of Impressionists at the Carriage House.

We hope you agree that these last two benefits will add value to your leisure time and that our slight, but necessary, increase in dues is still well worth the value you receive as a member. Thank you for Supporting the Tulsa Garden Center!

## News From the Board of Directors

### ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 14, 2012

Your Tulsa Garden Center Board and Officers have been working this past year to help streamline the governance of the Center. With the initial assistance of the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, the Board has voted unanimously to decrease its size to 12 or less directors and to create an Advisory Board consisting of Presidents of the Affiliate Organizations and Committee Chairs and others as appointed by the Board of Directors. We know this exciting development will come to fruition soon.

As part of this streamlining effort, the fiscal year of Tulsa Garden Center will change, from a June 1 to May 31 year, to a calendar year. This will greatly aid in the operations of the Garden Center. These changes will not affect the feel or nature of the Garden Center, they will merely help us to better serve our members and the public.

All Tulsa Garden Center Members are invited to attend our Annual Membership Meeting to be held May 14, 2012, at noon in the Tulsa Garden Center Ballroom. A review of the previous 12 months will be presented at that time. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will immediately follow the Annual Membership Meeting. I hope you will join us!

## Celebrate National Public Gardens Day in Woodward Park

National Public Gardens Day is Friday, May 11, 2012. The Tulsa Garden Center and Tulsa Parks Department invite you to celebrate in Woodward Park.

The Tulsa Area Iris Society and Green Country Bonsai Society will both stage exhibitions in the mansion of Tulsa Garden Center on Saturday and Sunday of this weekend.

There will be a treasure hunt for children to help them discover some of the hidden treasures of Woodward Park

# Gardening by the Book

## *Kitchen Gardens*

More and more people are discovering that the advantages of growing your own fruit and vegetables go far beyond being able to go outside and pick something to eat. Whether the garden consists of a spacious backyard, a raised bed, or simply a few containers on a patio or balcony, growing your own fruit and vegetables is easier and more rewarding than one can imagine. With careful planning and the most basic food preservation and storage methods, anyone with growing space can enjoy homegrown products throughout the year.

For techniques used by gardeners of all levels of expertise, try *Backyard Harvest: a Year-Round Guide to Growing Fruits and Vegetables* (DK Publishing, 2011). This easy to use guide shows what to sow and plant, how to keep crops growing and when to harvest. Storing, freezing and preserving tips are given to enjoy the produce through the winter months and into the following spring.

*Homegrown Harvest: a Season-by-Season Guide to a Sustainable Kitchen Garden* (American Horticultural Society, 2010) provides both region and climate specific advice. Color photographs illustrate how to perform a variety of essential chores and techniques. This book is especially useful being subdivided into tasks for the different vegetable families and fruit trees, bushes, and vines in each season.

Get the most from your garden using *The Kitchen Garden Month by Month* (DK Publishing, 2010). This offers garden-

ers details on how to maximize the productivity of their plot, no matter how small. The variety of tips and techniques include pruning and dealing with pests. Easy to follow, season by season advice details what to grow and when to grow it. The large photographs are especially appealing.

*Kitchen Gardener's Handbook* (Timber Press, 2010) provides gardening details needed to grow, harvest, cook, and decorate in a year round garden. Vegetables, fruits, greens and herbs for every season are detailed with growing instructions. One can learn how to create complementary floral decorations picked from the garden. For those with limited gardening space, choosing to incorporate edibles into the ornamental landscape is the perfect solution.

This A to Z guide details the planning, planting and care of homegrown fruits, vegetables and grains. Whether composting and enriching the soil or tackling weeding and mulching, guidance is given. *The Ultimate Guide to Growing Your Own Food* (Skyhorse Publishing, 2011) even includes unique information on specific health benefits, vitamins and minerals for each food.

Mary Moore  
Tulsa City/County Library



### CONTRIBUTIONS

#### Tulsa Garden Center

Phyllis Scott  
Rose Garden Meeting Group

#### Linnaeus Teaching Garden

Barbara and Harry Schneeberg  
Jim Wacker, Steelhouse Productions  
Pamela K. Pofahl  
Richard and Barbara Wollmershauser  
Suzanne Schobe  
Linda M. Helms  
Lynn Dickason  
Catherine Lickteig  
Tulsa Area Daylily Society

Donations received from March 8th, 2012 - April 7th, 2012

# Education



## **Brown Bag Lecture-Thursday, May 17th**

Bring your lunch and enjoy an exciting educational experience. This lecture is free to the public and will be held from 12pm to 1pm at Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria Ave. For more information, call 918-746-5125 or visit [www.tulsagardencenters.com](http://www.tulsagardencenters.com).

### *Herbs*

Kay Neff of Neff Family Farm, Sedgwick, Kansas, will present a program on growing, harvesting, storing and cooking with herbs.

Herbs are an inexpensive and delicious way to enhance the appeal and flavor of everyday dishes.

Growing herbs is a simple and enjoyable gardening experience that provides color, aroma and beauty to all gardens.

Herbal treats will be provided.



## **Book Discussion Club Tuesday, May 15th**

Come join us during your lunch hour for this informative discussion. The Tulsa Garden Center's Library Book Discussion Club is free to the public and held in the Tulsa Garden Center's Library, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., from 12pm to 1pm. For additional information, call 918-746-5125 or visit [www.tulsagardencenters.com](http://www.tulsagardencenters.com)

### *Wisterias*

Join Sandy Cox on May 15th for her educational discussion on the book *Wisterias* by Peter Valder.

Most gardeners remain unaware of the different colors and forms available in Wisterias.

This book describes over 60 different kinds, giving advice about cultivation, pruning, propagation, diseases and pests.

# Affiliate News



### **Tulsa Perennial Club "Perennials and More" Sale**

It's time for the Tulsa Perennial Club's "Perennials & More" sale at the Tulsa Garden Center on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Doors open at 9:00am and plants and gardening items will be sold until 2:00pm. A new feature of the 2012 sale is the "Garden Annex" featuring gently used gardening tools, supplies, magazines, etc.

Admission is Free for this fun event that you won't want to miss.

### **Tulsa Rose Society**

Please join the Tulsa Rose Society on Sunday, May 6th, at 2:00pm for a special presentation by Dr. Eric Rebeck of Oklahoma State University entitled "Identifying Insect Pests of Roses".

Following the presentation there will be a discussion on preparing roses for the upcoming show on May 19th.

Please note this meeting is scheduled for the first Sunday of May instead of the usual second Sunday date because of the Mother's Day holiday.

### **Oklahoma Native Plant Society**

The next meeting of the Northeast Chapter will occur on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 6:30pm.

Following a short business meeting at 7:00 p.m., Patty B. Smith, Assistant Professor of Biology and Coordinator of Undergraduate Research at Tulsa Community College, will present the program entitled

### *"Native Landscapes and Biodiversity in Oklahoma"*

Ms. Smith's interest is conservation biology, centered on the study of endangered and threatened species and ecoregions. She has taught at TCC for over twenty years where her courses include biology, botany, and undergraduate research. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call Alicia Nelson, Chair of Northeast Chapter at 918-599-0085.

# Affiliate News



## Tulsa Herb Society

The Tulsa Herb Society will meet on Tuesday, May 8th at 10:00am. The program will be given by Mark Stelljes of Roses, Inc.. Mark has 35 years experience growing roses so if you love your roses come and find out the answers to all your questions. Mark can also provide professional rose garden design, installation and maintenance.

He will also have a selection of rose care products for sale. Admission is Free to the public.

## Tulsa Area Iris Society

The May 10, 2012, meeting of Tulsa Area Iris Society will be held at Colebrook Nursery, 5915 W. 31st St., Tulsa, OK 74107, 918-445-0539. Admission is free to the public.

## Tulsa Area Iris Society

The Tulsa Area Iris Society will hold its Shows and Sales on Saturday, April 28th and Sunday, April 29th and Saturday, May 12th and Sunday, May 13th. Show hours for all days are 1:00-4:00pm. Advance orders will also be taken for Iris to be picked up at the July sale.

The theme for this year's shows is "Iris Eyes are Smiling". This is an American Iris Society accredited show, judged by accredited AIS Judges. Show is Free to the public.

## Green Country Bonsai Society

Will host its semi-annual Show on Saturday, May 12th, 10am-3:00pm, and Sunday, May 13th, 11:00am-3:00pm. On display will be trees styled and maintained by members of Green Country Bonsai. The show will be held in the Tulsa Garden Center South Room and admission is free to the public.

For further information, please contact Terry Marrs at 918-296-0834.

## Tulsa Perennial Club Meeting

The public is invited to attend the May 17th meeting of Tulsa Perennial Club where they'll learn more about growing edible plants in the landscape.

Leslie Moyer, owner of Shady Grove Natural Farm located in northeast Oklahoma, will be the speaker. Ms. Moyer was a presenter at the Tulsa Horticultural Industries Conference in January and we can expect another interesting program.

The public will learn more about plants that they can nibble on while out in the garden and grow for their meals. Come discover what plants can actually be eaten. Admission is Free to the public.

## Tulsa Garden Club

### *Southern Blooming Charm*

62nd Annual Garden Tour

Saturday, May 19th, 10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, May 20th, 12:00pm-5:00pm

In private Tulsa Gardens

This is the public's greatest opportunity to enjoy private, residential gardens in full spring splendor. Learn more about the art of gardening, horticulture, landscape design and environmental sciences.

*Tour Patrons enjoy an exclusive gourmet menu and live entertainment, Friday, May 18th.*

Tickets are \$10, and are available for purchase at each garden during tour weekend. Proceeds benefit Tulsa Garden Club projects including horticultural students at Tulsa Community College and Tulsa Garden Center. For tour details or to make your Patron reservation, call 918-625-1161.

## Tulsa Rose Society

Invites the public to attend its Annual Spring Flower Show:

### **"Roses and More"**

**Saturday, May 19th, 1:00—3:00pm**

All types of roses will be exhibited from tiny miniatures to hybrid teas, shrubs and climbers in all colors. Come and enjoy the beautiful roses and pick up some ideas for roses for your own garden.

Members of The Tulsa Rose Society will be on hand to discuss rose culture and give advice on growing and maintaining this true Queen of the Garden.

Admission is free to the public and the show will be held in the Tulsa Garden Center Auditorium, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., Tulsa, OK 74114.

## The African Violet Society of Greater Tulsa

The African Violet Society will meet on Monday, May 21st, at 7:15pm.

Doris Carson of Joplin, Missouri, will give a program on the large plant family known as Gesneriads which also includes African Violets. Her program is "How Many Gesneriads are There?"

Admission is free to the public and refreshments will be served.

## The Hosta Connection

The May 22, 2012, meeting of The Hosta Connection will be held at Colebrook Nursery, 5915 W. 31st St., Tulsa, OK 74107, 918-445-0539. Admission is free to the public.

## The Sierra Club

### *The Ethics of the Market: Saving the World, One Bite at a Time*

Join the Sierra Club for a presentation by Melanie Hunter, program coordinator for the Cherry Street Farmer's Market, entitled *The Ethics of the Market: Saving the World, One Bite at a Time*.

The corporate takeover of our food ways is no longer limited to fast food, supermarket chains, big box marts and industrial agriculture. It is also increasingly relegated to scientists and the global giants of genetic engineering.

Seasonal food, sustainable agriculture, home grown or locally grown, organic produce – these have become the rallying cries of a new resistance.

The presentation will be held at the Tulsa Garden Center Ballroom at 7:00pm on Thursday, May 31st. Admission is Free to the public.

# RAIN GARDENS

## What is a Rain Garden?

A rain garden is a planted depression that is located to capture rainwater from small storms, allowing the captured water to soak into the soil.

## Where should a rain garden be located?

For a rain garden to be effective, it should be located where water flows during storms.

## How big should a rain garden be?

A home rain garden should fit your landscape.

## How do I build a rain garden?

Simply dig a depression in your landscape and build a berm with the available soil.



Presenter:

Kevin Gustavson,  
Blue Thumb Program

Wednesday, May 9th  
6:00pm-8:00pm

Tulsa Garden Center  
Auditorium

Cost is \$10 per  
participant or \$8 for  
TGC Members



TULSA  
GARDEN  
CENTER

Tulsa Garden Center  
2435 S. Peoria Ave.

For information, call 918.746.5125 or visit our website at  
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# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 9:00am Tulsa Herb Society Crafting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:30pm Tulsa Area Daylily Society Meeting  7:00pm Cacti & Succulent Society Meeting	<b>4</b> 9:00am Calligraphy Workshop  10:00am Council of Federated Garden Clubs	<b>5</b> 9:00am Calligraphy Workshop  9:00am Perennial Club Plant Sale
<b>6</b> 9:00am Calligraphy Workshop  1:30pm Tulsa Orchid Society Meeting  2:00pm Tulsa Rose Society Meeting	<b>7</b> 10:00am Tulsa Garden Club Mtg.  12:30pm Tulsa Garden Club Study Group  6:00pm Oklahoma Native Plant Society Meeting  7:00pm Green Country Bonsai Society	<b>8</b> 9:30am Tulsa Herb Society Meeting  6:30pm Green Country Water Garden Society Meeting	<b>9</b> 6:00pm Rain Gardens Class	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>National Public Gardens Day</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00am Green Country Bonsai Show  1:00pm Tulsa Area Iris Society Show
<b>13</b> 11:00am Green Country Bonsai Show  1:00pm Tulsa Area Iris Society Show	<b>14</b> 10:30am Executive Committee Meeting  12:00pm Annual Meeting Annual Board Meeting immediately follows	<b>15</b> 9:00am Tulsa Herb Society Crafting  11:00am Anne Hathaway Herb Society Meeting  12:00pm Book Discussion Club "Wisterias"  7:00pm Audubon Society Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Lecture "Herbs"  7:00pm Tulsa Perennial Club Meeting	<b>18</b> 2:00am National Association Of Parliamentarians	<b>19</b> 9:30am Little Green Thumbs Program  1:00pm Tulsa Rose Society Show
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Calligraphy Guild Meeting  7:00pm African Violet Society Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:00am Tulsa Herb Society Crafting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Memorial Day Building Closed	<b>29</b> 9:00am Tulsa Herb Society Crafting	<b>30</b> 9:00am Linnaeus Teaching Garden Monthly Meeting	<b>31</b> 7:00pm Sierra Club Meeting		



April 26-27, 2012

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Tulsa, OK

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*Visit us at [www.tulsagardencenter.com](http://www.tulsagardencenter.com)*

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## News from City of Tulsa Chief Horticulturist, Maureen Turner.....

Today I had the opportunity to go out with a group of fellow gardeners and take a look at what is blooming and what is getting ready to in different places around the city. This spring has been a very confusing one for the plant world. There are plants that normally bloom in the summer that are blooming right now. The same can be said for some of the plants that normally bloom in the fall. I can honestly say I have never seen irises, roses and fall asters all blooming at the same time. It looks funny to me because I know it is not supposed to happen.

As a person who designs flowerbeds all over the city, it is kind of unsettling. As a rule, a designer will try to find plants that bloom in succession. This means that some of the plants will bloom in the spring, some in the summer, and some in the fall. For the winter, I try to find plants that have winter interest. This means that the plant, whether deciduous or evergreen, will have visual interest during the winter time. A good example of this is the red twig dogwood. Although the plant has no leaves on it during the winter, the stems of the plant are bright red. If you add a little snow, the color combination is amazing. Many times I will visit gardens to see a beautiful display of flowers, but no year round appeal, just a one shot bloom. You can look at garden pictures in big magazines and notice the same thing. The picture you may be looking at and are drooling over may have interest just a few weeks of the year. Tulsans are lucky to have a plethora of plants to choose from for

all year beauty. Our friends to the north have a more limited palette to play with. Our summers may be longer and hotter, but this longer duration allows us to watch tropical plants bloom like we may see in the Caribbean.

As I continue walking with other gardeners, we all seem to have the same confused thoughts. If it is blooming now, will it still be blooming during its normal bloom period? Only time will tell how this season will play out and hopefully the plants will settle back into normal bloom patterns. Regardless of the crazy blooming that is happening, we are all thankful for the rains that have been falling, but not so much for the tornadoes and destruction we are seeing. My heart goes out to anyone who has been affected by one of the terrible storms we have seen as of late.

This area of Oklahoma is doing well moisture wise and we are hoping that it will continue to be a 'normal' season, although none of us can decide on what 'normal' means anymore. All I know is the farmer's almanac is telling us that this summer is supposed to be normal. I have to believe this will be true. The past few years have proven to be some of the most challenging in the history of this state and I am hoping that we get a little reprieve this year!