

Desert Trumpet

Newsletter of Desert Planters of Ridgecrest

Ridgecrest, California

April 2008

www.desertempiredistrict.org/desertplanters
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USDA Zone 8/9; Sunset Zone 10/11
IRS Non-Profit Group Exemption Number: 5358

"Exploring the Many Facets of Gardening"
Member of

Desert Empire District (DED)
California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)

Pacific Region
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Local Water Issues is Program Topic for April 5th General Meeting

Both Donna Thomas and Lucinda Sue Crosby are very knowledgeable and good communicators on local water issues. The program will be presented on Saturday, April 5 2008 at Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd. in Ridgecrest. The meeting is from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Lucinda Sue is Coordinator of Education and Conservation for the Water District; her presentation, titled "Water in the West: An Overview," examines the array of water challenges facing the arid and semi-arid regions of the nation's West and Southwest as population centers shift, drought conditions linger and water sources become increasingly strained. She has 11 journalism and environmental awards to her credit and was recently recognized for her work by Kern County Council of Governments (KernCOG). She brings a unique perspective to water issues and their possible solutions.

Donna Thomas is interested in water, water conservation, water awareness and water education issues, as well as in desert native plants and their propagation. She attends the Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Group meetings. She is deeply involved in California Garden Clubs, Inc. water conservation and native plant work, instrumental in the work of the High Desert Region of Resource Conservation Districts, on the state board for the California Association of Resource Conservation District and an officer of the Mojave Desert-Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Council. She was involved in the startup for the Sand Canyon Environmental Education program (SEEP).

Voting for Officers for 2008-2009 at April Meeting

Officers presented at the March General meeting will be voted on in April and installed in May. Nominations are accepted from the floor at the April meeting if anyone wants to do that. Please be sure anyone you nominate has agreed in advance to serve. Because of the hard work of the Nominating Committee and the willingness of members to serve as officers, Desert Planters of Ridgecrest will continue as a CGCI club for the coming garden club year.

Tree Planting at Mesquite High School a Success!

Outstanding front page press coverage resulted from this nicely done tree planting, coordinated by LaVerne Harms and Gerry Wisdom. Two Catalpa Trees were provided by Desert Planters in honor of California Arbor Day.

Tentative Desert Empire District April Flower Show

The Desert Empire District Flower Show has been tentatively scheduled to be a part of the Desert Empire Fair Spring Festival, April 24th through 27th, at the Fairgrounds. Entries will be received and judged April 23rd. The show hours will be listed in the newspaper. No further information is available at this time. Please call DED Director Annette Craver at 377.4489 if you are interested in entering.

DPR Farmer's Market Booth at the Triangle every Friday 8 to 11 a.m.
Featuring garden hats, Month by Month Garden Book for Ridgecrest, plants
acclimated to IWV, outstanding gardening advice.

Tickets for the IWVWD Xeriscape Workshop on May 10th will be available in early April. Details at April Meeting!

Tax Exempt Number for Desert Planters

If you have donated goods or services to Desert Planters of Ridgecrest in 2007 and would like to claim them on your taxes, our new tax exempt number is 5358. DPR is included under the umbrella of the CGCI tax exemption submission in case your tax preparer asks. More information on CGCI tax exempt status can be found at:

<http://www.cagardenclubs.org/html/NonProfit/501c3Clubs.htm>

Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District in Lancaster

The AV Resource Conservation District at 10148 W Avenue I in Lancaster, CA 93536, 661.942.7306 is holding a second Open House, on either Saturday and Sunday, April 19-20 or April 20-21, a Sunday and Monday. Plants are for sale there! Plants lists are available at: http://www.avrcd.org/detailed_plant_list.htm. No firm information on the plant sale is available. There might be wildflowers blooming – it's not far from the Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve.

Ridgecrest Landfill Toxic Roundup!

Saturday, April 5th from 9 a.m. to noon the Ridgecrest Landfill will accept automotive fluids, batteries, household cleaners, paint, pesticides and pool chemicals as long as these conditions are met: 15 gallons or 125 pounds of waste per trip, no leaking containers, all containers properly labeled. No business waste is allowed, only residential. For more information please call 800.559.KERN option 5.

Mix Your Own Rose Fertilizer

Combine 12 cups alfalfa pellets/rabbit food and 30 gallons water.
Steep 4-5 days in garage or outside.
Add 1/2 cup chelated iron and 2 cups Epsom Salt (magnesium sulfate).

Apply 1 gallon to each rose monthly in growing season. Apply less often in heat of summer when the plants need to rest to survive the heat.

Donnie Woods Offers Springtime Garden Teas

Art spills over into the garden at 458 E. Monte Vista in College Heights! Donnie Woods will hold garden teas again this April for those who enjoy visiting with friends and relaxing in a garden setting. Dates this year (the 6th one!) will be April 17th through 19th and April 22nd through 26th, seatings are at 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person; please call for reservations after April 6th. There is no wheelchair access. The art studio and boutique will be open. (This is not a garden club sponsored event.)

Oasis Garden Club Garden Tours April 19th

Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley is sponsoring a Garden Tour on Saturday, April 19th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are available from Maturango Museum, 100 E. Las Flores Avenue, Red Rock Books, 206 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. and Hair Pros, 740 N. China Lake Blvd, all in Ridgecrest. Tickets are \$5.00 and will include the itinerary and instructions for access to the eight gardens being featured. Refreshments will be served at one of the locations.

May and June General Meeting Plans

As shown in the Desert Planters' Yearbook, the May 2008 General meeting will feature Installation of Officers, Life Member presentations. Parade of Gardens Awards, and other recognitions. No luncheon or program is planned.

The June 2008 General meeting will be an end-of-the-year luncheon on Saturday, June 14th due to State Convention the previous weekend. Details are still pending even though the Yearbook says otherwise.

Desert Planters Officers 2007-2008

Dues are \$25 per year per individual; \$35 per year per household.

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Calendar of Events				
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTES
Saturday, April 5, 2008	General Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 North China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest	1 to 3:30 p.m.	Program on IWV Water Issues by Lucinda Sue Crosby of IWV Water District and Donna Thomas of East Kern Resource Conservation District.
Saturday, April 5, 2008	Toxic Roundup!	Ridgecrest Landfill, 3301 Bowman Road, Ridgecrest	9 a.m. to noon	15 gallons or 125 pounds of waste per trip, no leaking containers, and all containers properly labeled.
Tuesday, April 15, 2008	Business Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 North China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest	1 to 3:30 p.m.	All members are invited, officers are requested to attend, and guests are always welcome but cannot vote.
Saturday, April 19, 2008	Oasis Garden Club of IWV Garden Tour	Eight locations in Ridgecrest	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	See article on Page 2.
Saturday & Sunday, April 19-20, 2008 OR Sunday and Monday, April 20-21, 2008	Open House and Plant Sale	Resource Conservation District, 10148 W Avenue I, Lancaster 661.942.7306	TBD	Plants will be for sale! More details on Page 2.
April 24-27, 2008	Desert Empire Fair— Theme is “Spring Creations”	Desert Empire Fairgrounds in Ridgecrest	All Day	
Wednesday, April 23, 2008	TENTATIVE DED Flower Show Judging	Desert Empire Fairgrounds in Ridgecrest	All Day	Members of any DED garden club are encouraged to submit entries. See article on Page 1.
Saturday, May 3, 2008	General Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 North China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest	1 to 3:30 p.m.	Installation of 2008-2009 Officers, other end of year presentations.
Saturday, May 10, 2008	IWV Water District Xeriscape Workshop	Gladys Merrick Garden at Maturango Museum	10 a.m. to Noon	Desert Planters of Ridgecrest is hosting the event.
Monday, May 12, 2008	Desert Empire District Annual Meeting	Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Joshua Hall Board Room,	9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Lunch is \$5, all garden club members are encouraged to attend. Host club is Oasis.
Tuesday, May 20, 2008	DPR Business Meeting under newly installed Board.	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 North China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest	1 to 3:30 p.m.	All members are invited, officers are requested to attend, and guests are always welcome but cannot vote.
June 6-9, 2008	CGCI Convention	Woodland Hills CA	All Day	New DPR officers attending.
Saturday, June 14, 2008	End of year luncheon	TBD	TBD	NOTE THE 1-WEEK DELAY IN THIS MEETING.