

Desert Trumpet

Newsletter of Desert Planters of Ridgecrest
Ridgecrest, California

February 2008

www.desertempiredistrict.org/desertplanters
P O Box 841 Ridgecrest CA 93556-0841

Co-President Marianne Kistler 760.384.4995
Co-President Judy Talbot 760.371.1953

USDA Zone 8/9; Sunset Zone 10/11

"Exploring the Many Facets of Gardening"
Member of

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

Pacific Region
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Plants from Rose Cuttings is Program for February 2nd General Meeting

The program for February 2, 2008 is by Marianne Kistler on starting plants from rose cuttings taken January 26th from Ridgecrest City Hall Freedom Park Rose Garden. Participants will be able to take 3-4 rose cutting plants home.

A horticulture segment is also planned. The meeting is from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 North China Lake Blvd. in Ridgecrest.

Rose Pruning Demonstration Held January 26th

Six members of Desert Planters spent two hours Saturday morning pruning the rose bushes at Ridgecrest City Hall rose garden. About 5-6 community members stopped by.

March 1, 2008 Program is a Tour!

A tour and program at Bella Rosa Nursery is planned for the March 1st program. Details will be in the March newsletter.

Challenge Made and Met for a Compost Poem!

As a result of our program on composting in January, Wanda Church says "Dorothy Bennett challenged me to write a poem about compost. Well, I did it!"

THE COMPOST CHALLENGE

The gauntlet was dropped for an ode to "compost".
You know, that's the stuff that gardeners love most.
It enriches the soil and breaks down hard pan,
The bane of all homeowners in this desert land.

It's easy to make, if you have a well-muscled arm
For raking leaves and grass, they work like a charm.
Just dig a shallow ditch or buy a fancy device
Or use metal or plastic trash cans, they'll suffice.

Put in kitchen scraps of veggie and egg shell,
Then add dirt and water and cover it well.
With a shovel or fork turn it each day.
You'll make black magic, wonderful stuff they say.

Use it for planting or preparing new ground,
Make "tea" for old plants, an elixir renowned.
This verse is now over, the fun has been had,
The challenge met, however so bad.

Copyright 2008 Wanda Church



DPR Planning for the Future Committee

The lack of leadership for 2008-2009 is still a paramount issue and will impact any decision on the future of the club. No matter what is decided of the three options below, leadership is still required. If people can not volunteer to head committees or be responsible to coordinate activities, the club will disband.

A Steering Committee has been formed to develop options for the future of Desert Planters of Ridgecrest. Choices so far include:

- 1-remaining a CGCI club with minimal participation in District and State;
- 2-becoming an independent garden club, not affiliated with CGCI; or
- 3-becoming a CGCI Affiliate with no District or State requirements to fulfill.

Consideration is being given to changing the objective and focus of the club to Waterwise Gardening exclusively. Streamlining club organization and activities is also under consideration.

Members of the Steering Committee are Marianne Kistler, Judy Talbot, Penny LePome, Wanda Church, Elizabeth Lorch and Debbie Wheeler. Any DPR member is invited and encouraged to take part. LaVerne Harms and Dorothy Bennett have been active participants. Contact Judy Talbot or Marianne Kistler to be notified of the dates and times of the meetings.

Oasis Garden Club of IWV 50th Anniversary Event

The Oasis Garden Club of IWV 50th Anniversary celebration is at Victoria's at the Heritage, 1050 N. Norma St., on Saturday February 16th, from 9:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost of lunch is \$16.50 (tax and gratuity included). Make checks payable to Oasis Garden Club. Menu selections are Chicken Marsala or Salmon with Tomato basil sauce. RSVP by February 7th to Joanne Latimer, PO Box 1268, Inyokern CA 93527, inquiries 377-4166. Entertainment is a barbershop quartet that includes TomatoMan[®] Scott Shacklett. Donnie Woods says he really has a nice voice!

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTES
Saturday, February 2, 2008	DPR General Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd. in Ridgecrest	1-3:30 p.m.	Program on starting cuttings from rose prunings.
Monday, February 11, 2008	Desert Empire District Winter Board Meeting	CA City	9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Members are encouraged to attend; call Judy or Marianne for arrangements.
Tuesday, February 19, 2008	Business Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd. in Ridgecrest	1-3:30 p.m.	Officers are requested to attend, members and guests are invited but guests cannot vote.
Saturday, March 1, 2008	DPR General Meeting	Immanuel Ministry Center, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd. in Ridgecrest	1-3:30 p.m.	Tour and program at Bella Rosa Nursery in College Heights.
Saturday, May 10, 2008	IWV Water District Xeriscape Workshop	To be Announced	10 a.m. to Noon	Desert Planters of Ridgecrest is hosting the event.

Desert Planters Officers 2007-2008

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

- Co-President— Marianne Kistler 760.384.4995; kistler@iwvisp.com
- Co-President—Judy Talbot 760.371.1953; jatalbot@mchsi.com
- Vice President— Dorothy Morico 760.371.2565; morico555@aol.com
- Recording Secretary—Elizabeth Lorch 760.446.2650; ellorch@verizon.net
- Corresponding Secretary— Lucille Nielson 760.371.9401; kimble9@iwvisp.com
- Treasurer—Arthur Spiegel 760.446.7307; ajsbjs@earthlink.net
- Parliamentarian—Marianne Kistler 760.384.4995; kistler@iwvisp.com
- Newsletter Editor and Publicity Coordinator—Judy Talbot 760.371.1953; jatalbot@mchsi.com