

February 2010

Member of:
Desert Empire District,
California Garden Clubs,
Inc., Pacific Region,
And National Garden
Clubs, Inc.

Desert Trumpet

Newsletter for
Desert Planters of
Ridgecrest,
PO Box 841
Ridgecrest CA 93555
Website:
www.desertempiredistrict.org

Officers:

- Shirley Craver
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- LaVerne Harms
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- Wanda Church
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- Arthur Spiegel
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- Janet Eyre
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- LaVerne Harms
Editor
- **Contributors**
Shirley Craver and
LaVerne Harms

**Desert Planters
of Ridgecrest
Charter Motto:
"Make Ridge-
crest Clean and
Green"**

The President's Corner

By Shirley Craver

THEME: *Gardener's We Are, We Plant
Our Gardens With Beauty*

Happy Valentines Day
(in advance).

Here we are in to the second
month of the year already, My! Where
do the days go?

I was able to go to San Diego
to the winter board. We heard and
learned many new programs, planting
ideas, renewed our knowledge of the
rules and regulations for CGCI.
I think there were seven of us there
from the Desert Empire
District.

We had great
weather and some of the
most delicious desserts.

One of the high
lights of the meeting
was going on a bus tour
to the Birch Aquarium
at Scripps located on a coastal bluff. If
you have never been there, don't pass
up the chance to visit.

Rozella Eyre is the nominating
committee chairman. If you want to
run for office ROZELLA NEEDS TO
KNOW AS WE ELECT OFFICERS
IN APRIL (except treasurer) please
call Rozella .

Starting Sept. 2010 thru 2011;
Gerry Wisdom is our new program
chairman. She will be scheduling some
interesting programs. If you have a
program idea.

I am sure you all know we
lost our friend, Kathy Pratt last
month. She was a devoted friend of
all the garden clubs. Desert Planters
is planning a memorial planting at
the Maturango Museum in the very
near future. It's being worked out
with the people at the Museum.

As of this date, we have five
going to DED Winter Board meeting
on Feb. 8th. If you want to join in
the fun and conversation, please
RSVP Shirley . The host clubs need
to plan for lunch. The cost is \$5 for
lunch. We may be able to car pool.

Our general Meeting is Feb.
13th. We will be doing Valentine
decorations. See the
February Calendar,
Page 2, about what
you need to bring if
you wish to partici-
pate.

*Happy
Valentine's
Day February
14th!*

JUST COME
AND ENJOY

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AT
THE MEETING AND HAVE A
COOKIE!!

God Bless all of you and stay
healthy. Don't eat too many choco-
lates on Feb. 14th.!!! Shirley

Thank You: Rozella Eyre and
Karla Christiansen for serving the
delicious refreshments at the
January meeting and thank you
Shirley Craver for donating the
plants for the door prizes.

- February 8 **Desert Empire District Winter Board Meeting.** Coffee, 9:30 A.M. Host Desert Rose & Boron Garden Clubs. The meeting is being held at the Community Arts Center, Central Park. 10400 Heather Street, California City. The luncheon is \$5.00. We will start with a breakfast provided by the Boron Garden Club and proceed with our meeting at 10:00. Later is the luncheon. Please remember to bring garden related items for the DED Ways and means.
- February 9 **Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon,** 2nd Tuesday, 12:00 noon at Victoria's at the Heritage. (In courtyard at Heritage Inn). RSVP 375-8331. DPR is a Chamber Member.
- February 13 **DPR Monthly Meeting, 1 PM** — Immanuel Christian Center, 1201 N. China Lake Blvd..
Speaker: Speaker: Aida Stafford is planning to demonstrate how to design "Floral Wreaths for *Valentine's Day*." Stafford is a member of Oasis Garden Club, she has been studying floral design for many years and has received an array of awards at the Desert Empire Fair. If you would like to participate please bring a plain wreath to decorate. Do you have one at home that could use some new dried or silk floral material or buy a plain wreath at the dollar store or local department stores. DPR will supply some decorating material, but if you have a special theme in mind, please bring your own material to work with. Also bring a glue gun as several other members are sharing theirs.
- Rose Pruning demonstration: By Wanda Church
 - Horticulture Grow & Show by: All members please bring plant cuttings from your garden.
 - Door Prizes awarded, come and be the lucky winner.
 - Refreshments graciously provided by: Lucille Nielson, Shirley Craver and LaVerne Harms.
- February 23 **DPR Business Meeting is the 4th Tuesday.** 1 PM. Meet at Lucille Nielson's home. All members welcome.
Please note: DPR Business Meeting location change:
- March 13 **DPR Monthly Meeting**
Speaker: Taryn Tree, Landscape designer and owner of Treehouse Designs. Taryn is talking about your "Garden Focal Point." Bring a notebook to write some notes, we are delighted to have Taryn back.



If you have a place to keep plants warm—get a head start and keep potting up plants for our spring plant sale, there is danger of frost until March 15.

Desert Planters of Ridgecrest,
P. O. Box 841, Ridgecrest CA 93556-0841

IRS Non-Profit Group Exemption Number: 5358

USDA Zone 8/9; Sunset Zone 10/11

February in your Garden:

After learning about Kathleen Pratt's death it reminded me about our *Month by Month Gardening* book by Evelyn Callaway, and revised 1999 by Kathleen Pratt. This book is a marvelous reference book for our area.

"February is the end of the gardener's winter... Pruning is the number one job for early February. Do not delay until March... Any shrub or tree which loses its leaves in winter (deciduous) is subject for pruning except those which flower on old wood. Wait until after bloom for these." The above chores should be done by mid-month including spraying dormant oil spray.

Plant bare root roses, shrubs, and hardy perennials. Asparagus, rhubarb, globe artichokes, and strawberries can be set out this month. Spruce up your flower beds by planting alyssum, candytufts, African daisy, pansies, primroses, coreopsis, stock, calendula, poppies and dianthus. Water and fertilize with a mild fertilizer. Spring planting can start February 15th. Plant cool season vegetables such as radishes, beets, leeks, potato eyes, lettuce, carrots Spinach, chard, onion sets, cabbage, cauliflower, parsley, turnips and broccoli.

According to Callaway sweet peas do well in the desert area. "Select a sunny location where a fence or netting is available for the heat-resistant Culbertson or Floribunda climbers. Bush sweet peas, the Bijou or Knee-Hi varieties, need not be staked. Check out the nurseries for new varieties. She says to work in some super phosphate and a sprinkling of ammonium sulphate into a planting trench. Plant one inch deep and one inch apart.

Remember spring flowering bulbs need moisture to bring them up and guarantee good bloom. For further information refer to the DPR Month *by Month Gardening* book. *Editor*

IN MEMORIAM:

Kathleen Pratt, a long time member of Desert Planters Garden Club, died on Sunday, January 10, 2010. I'm sure her family would appreciate a card or note. Al Pratt at 1217 E. Monte Vista, Ridgecrest, CA 93555-8162. Wanda Church is researching the possibility of a planting in her honor at the Maturango Museum.

Remember:

To: bring a nonperishable food item to the meeting for the food pantry.

And: continue potting up plants for the spring plant sale, May 1st at the Xeriscape Workshop.

CGCI, NGC, DED AND DPR, COMING EVENTS:

February 8, 2010 Desert Empire District Winter Board Meeting. Host: Desert Rose of California City and Boron Garden Club. See calendar, Pg. 2 for details.

February 18-20, 2010 Flower Show School, Course 4, Encinitas. Sponsor: Palomar District. Chairman: Laura Crenshaw

April 7-9, 2010 Flower Show Symposium, Sacramento. Sponsor: CGCI. Chairman: Gloria Aminian

April 20-21, 2010 Gardening Study School, Series 21, Course II, Loomis. Sponsor: Golden Foothills District. Chairman: Patsy Jeffery

May 1, 2010, 10-Noon. Spring Xeriscape Workshop. Sponsor: IWV Water District. Co-Host Desert Planters at the USO Building, Ridgecrest.

May 8, 2010 Desert Planters of Ridgecrest Anniversary Luncheon — Grape Leaf Restaurant

May 17, 2010 Desert Empire District Annual Spring Meeting. Host: Desert Planters of Ridgecrest. United Methodist Church, 639 N. Norma Street, Ridgecrest. After the meeting we will dedicate a bench in memory of Alice Hirsch, the district founder, which will be placed on the walking path near Upjohn.

June 4 – 7, 2010, CGCI 79th Convention, Westlake Village. Sponsor: Channel Islands Dist.

- CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (CGCI) State Garden Club information www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org.
- PACIFIC REGION www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org
- NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. for National Garden Club information—www.GardenClub.org.
- Desert Empire District (DED). To download the *Desert Trumpet*—www.DesertEmpireDistrict.org.