

The Friends of Riverside Park Gardens

Fall 2008 Newsletter

President's Message

Summer is over and gardeners are busy planting for Spring and preparing gardens for Winter.

The Fall sale was a big success! Thanks to all the members who donated plants and worked so tirelessly the many days before and during the sale. My special appreciation goes to Jim Flack and Tom Greene who dug and picked up many donations from community gardeners. There are still many plants available for sale and work yet to be done. An order of 2000 spring bulbs has arrived. If you would like to help plant them please call me at 764-1002.

A meeting for all members will be held at 3 PM, Sunday, November 9th for the purpose of "brainstorming" on where the Friends are going in the future. Please plan to attend and share your thoughts. The Friends Board needs your input to develop a 5 year plan for the gardens and for future programs and activities. If you are unable to come please return the survey with your ideas.

The greenhouse is lovely and the surrounding gardens are beginning to show improvement. Please come and help out – members are always there working during our volunteer hours. I wish you all a happy and healthy Holiday Season.

Diane Wolf

Volunteer and Plant Sale Hours

Wednesdays 9 AM - 12 PM; 5-7 PM

Saturdays 9 AM - 12 PM

Around Our Greenhouse

Hello, I'm Nancy McKinnon and I have found my new home away from home. I became a member/volunteer six months ago and I LOVE IT!

I recently became the Volunteer Coordinator and now have the best opportunity to spread the word about this wonderful place to "play in the dirt". So many ways to learn about how a "working" greenhouse works.

Nancy McKinnon

Please welcome our new members:

Donna Dual Martha Thorpe
Michelle and Steve Ladwig

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Apple Dumplings

- 4 to 6 medium size apples
- 2 Pkgs 8 count crescent rolls
- ½ cup lemon juice
- 2 cups orange juice
- 1 stick butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon

Peel apples, halve or quarter and put them into 1 qt plain water and add lemon juice while sauce is cooking. Mix orange juice, butter, sugar and cinnamon and cook over medium heat. Let sauce boil gently for at least 10 minutes; stirring often. While sauce is cooking, open crescent rolls and separate. Drain apples and pat dry. Wrap crescent rolls over apples and place in a large, buttered baking dish. Pour sauce over apples and bake for 45 minutes; you want them golden brown. Enjoy!

By Vickie Koker

Upcoming Events & Classes

Gourd Bird Houses	November 8th
Friends Meeting	November 9 th 3 PM
Potting Bulbs	November 15 th (2 nd part Feb 21)
Holiday Wreath	December 6 th
Paint a Garden Chair	January 10 th (2 nd part on 17 th)

How and When to Divide Hosta

If you've got Hosta that are growing so tightly that the center of the plants has died out, it's time to divide them. You can do so now, about 30 days before they go dormant. That way the soil is still warm enough for the new divisions to establish some new roots before winter. To divide them, simply dig up the root ball and with your spade cut the root ball into multiple pieces. Replant the pieces. It's as simple as that.

Mike McGroarty www.freeplants.com
(contributed by Ina Ackeberg)

Announcements

We have decided to help sell Younkers Community Day Coupon Booklets as a fundraiser for the Friends. The booklets cost \$5.00 each and have a \$10.00 coupon, along with 8 20% off coupons in them. Any money we make from selling these booklets goes straight to Friends (e.g. if we sell 100 booklets, we get \$500). I am looking for volunteers to help sell the booklets either on their own or at a table we will have at Younkers. Volunteers are needed at the table Tuesday and Saturday afternoons from now through November 11th.

If you decide to help, which I hope you do, please give me a call at 309-764-2272. I can give you more details then. Thank you.

Sue Eveland
