

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

July, 2010 Newsletter
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CELEBRATING 13 YEARS

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Established 1997

GARDEN ACCESSORIES 101

It's all in the embellishments. Embellishments and accessories make gardens interesting and finished in appearance, reflecting their owner's personality and style, contributing to the overall impression. Opportunities to embellish the garden are found almost everywhere: from a group of containers, a rock wall, to under trees and amid greenery.

Customers Linda and Robert Fillmore like to spend



time in their garden. Their inviting entry is the quintessential illustration of garden design books, given importance by clusters of planted containers and an opposing pair of greyhounds perched on sturdy rock pedestals.

Each year they transform their garden, adding more beautiful groupings of containers enlivened by the clever placement of a collection of garden accessories; statues, pineapples, toadstools, benches, cottages, bunnies, frogs, turtles, and birds. Little wonder that they recently received a well deserved Quail Creek Garden of the Month award.



Surprises unfold in dense plantings of caladiums, coleus, and impatiens and guests are enthralled with each discovery. Here, bunnies add interest to a simple vignette of pots abundantly planted with pale pink begonias.



Pots are found in shade garden beds and on the sun dappled patio, each with its own accents such as this rustic frog and toadstool.

View your garden with a designing eye; because it's all in the

embellishments.

COOLING FOUNTAINS

July is fountain month at Wilshire Garden Market. The sight and sound of falling water in a fountain always makes us feel cooler and calmer. Fountain is a word derived from the Latin word *fontis*, meaning spring.



Regardless of its size, a fountain can be beneficial. A small fountain placed on a nearby table soothes and relaxes an outdoor reader, making precious solitary moments even more enjoyable.

A walled garden with a fountain becomes your own cool green haven, a peaceful place to escape from stress, to smell fragrant flowers, watch birds and listen to all of the sounds of nature. Our lightweight, durable fiberglass wall fountains have the appearance of lead, iron, or limestone; they are simple to install.



A fountain fills a lifeless corner, adds sparkle to a pathway, or graces the center of your garden. Birds are attracted to moving water, adding life to the garden. Fountains can be connected to sprinkler



systems for carefree filling. Every garden should have at least one fountain!

OOH LA LA! FRENCH SOAP!

There are several products from the store that we both use and enjoy on a daily basis: the outdoor pillows and rugs, our fountains, wind chimes, and our lovingly planted glazed terra cotta and cast stone containers. The one item that gets overlooked is the soap that we sell. Years ago at market, we were literally drawn in to a showroom filled with an intoxicatingly wonderful scent. The streamlined displays were complemented by rustic barrels of French lavender blossoms. Contrary to our better judgment we placed an order; soaps were not anything that went with the rest of our inventory. We justified our purchase by saying that if no one else bought them, we would use the soaps ourselves. A decade later we are still enjoying, selling, and introducing new customers to the best soaps in the world.

This soap is made by the same centuries old process. The 150 gram soaps are enriched with shea butter, contain pure and natural ingredients, and are quadruple milled. This means that the soap is passed through the mill four times, completely infusing the essential oils and creating a dense, hard soap that will not melt onto the side of the tub or sink. Allowed to dry after use on a soap dish, these soaps will outlast other soaps, and will produce a rich, thick lather even from a thin wafer.



Some soaps include visible bits of rose petals, leaves, seeds, rind and lavender blossoms which aid to exfoliate dead skin cells leaving skin renewed and soft. The delicate scent of the soap fills the wash room with its wonderful aroma that can be enjoyed even when not in use. The soap is free of parabens, ethyl alcohol, DEA, Phenoxyethanol, and there is no animal testing.



The newest product is the Gardener's soap, which was a 2010 NY Gift Show Best New Product finalist. It was inspired by the enduring rustic life of Provence that is centered on living, working and being in nature. Natural exfoliants and cornmeal help to gently remove soil, comfrey aids in healing skin from any minor scrapes, while

shea and cocoa butters moisturize leaving skin feeling soft and clean. The four natural scents to choose from are reminiscent of the colorful, flower-strewn meadows of Provence: lavender rose, rosemary mint, fresh basil, and bergamot.

Shea butter is derived from the nut of the karite tree which thrives amid the harsh, arid conditions in central Africa. Shea butter



is one of nature's best moisturizers; it is naturally gentle yet provides intense healing for dry skin, cuticles, lips and hair. One of the most luxurious soaps is the 20% shea butter hand cut soap. The natural scent has a clean, pure aroma with a thick lather that is nourishing to the skin. Europeans apply the 100% shea butter, a thick cream, to their hair thirty minutes before shampooing as a deep conditioner; it leaves hair thick, shiny and soft.

The extra fragrant honey soap, embossed with a traditional French bee, is made by an esteemed soap-making family who has been in business since 1812. It is made with natural, biodegradable ingredients, pure vegetable oil, and contains no artificial colors. This soap is triple milled, renders a rich lather, leaving your skin



soft and clean. The honey lavender soap is made with honey collected near Provence lavender fields. Its sweet, soothing scent fills the bath with the air of Provence. The 250 gr. bars are wonderful for long soothing baths and last for weeks. We appreciate these small luxuries and how they enhance our daily lives!

COME WITH US TO THE UK!

Have you ever looked a royal blue Himalayan poppy in the eye? Have you ever become a member of the Royal Horticulture Society just to attend



the Chelsea Flower Show a day before it opens to the public? Have you spent 10 days with 20 semi-strangers and returned home with 20 new friends for life?

You can do that and much more if you come with us to the Chelsea Flower Show in May, 2011. The



Chelsea Flower Show, held on the grounds of the Royal Hospital right in the middle of London, is a chance to shop the tents to BUY SEEDS and GARDEN PRODUCTS, or just sit back and enjoy a glass of Pimm's (an alcoholic cocktail served over fruit) or champagne, alongside the world's gardening elite, and see the beautiful garden designs just after the royalty and press.

The cost is approximately \$5,000; you can save \$1,000 if you use airline miles. If you are interested in signing on, email us at wgmok@sbcglobal.net. The deadline is December 1, 2010.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE



A beautifully set table, indoors or in the garden, is always irresistible. Our new Parisian designed 100% cotton, machine washable tablecloths are rich in color and style. Five patterns are available in with more arriving soon.

Summer Solitaire! Many people love to play solitaire or other card games, and it's even more fun now that we are carrying these English floral playing cards. Each card portrays a different cottage garden flower, wild flower, herb, rose, or bird. They make a great small gift or an extra surprise in a gift!



An ample assortment of stars and stripes polyester outdoor pillows arrived just in time to make front porch benches and patio cook-outs more holiday festive. Since they're comfortable and washable,

they could even go along with you and the family to fireworks displays.

Summers are just better with a swing chair. Hang one from a tree or from a beam of a pergola, or even from a beam indoors



and swing your cares away! Everyone can appreciate a swing chair!

Who has marvelous mailboxes? We do and you can, too! This one has a dragonfly on top and roses



on the front, wonderful palm green and cream stripes, pink roses, purple and black and white accent trim. The hefty size is large enough for numerous magazines and packages, and the designs are beautiful. Made and hand painted in Oklahoma, of course, the creative state with the prettiest mailboxes! We have discovered that the Hollyhocks pillows coordinate beautifully with this mailbox. This would look really good on your front porch.



A new shipment of clear embossed polycarbonate tumblers, tea glasses, wine goblets, and pitchers has arrived. The unbreakable polycarbonate glasses will not cloud or split in the dishwasher.

Customers have returned telling us how much they and their guests love them. Unbreakable and Perfect for poolside, they add sparkle to outdoor table settings.

Arriving this week, wide brim Panama hats in beautiful colors and natural to keep your skin safe from the sun and shade your eyes all the while looking very glamorous. A soft, stretchy band



inside makes one size fit all; a bolo cord keeps the hats in place in the Oklahoma breezes. Come find yours for Fourth of July outdoor activities!

Recipe for Tart Sparkling Lemonade

Bruise several mint leaves; refrigerate in one undiluted can of frozen lemonade mix overnight. Next day, remove mint leaves when preparing lemonade mix. Add 2 cups of ginger ale and 2 and one-third cups of water. If you haven't tried it, this is very thirst quenching and refreshing; serve it in your new polycarbonate pitcher and glasses!

JULY TO DO LIST

- Deadhead perennials.
- Trim back herbs.
- Water deeply, early in the morning,
- After watering, fertilize every two weeks with fish emulsion; follow directions.
- Keep grass 3" high to protect from heat.
- Keep bird baths full of clean water.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

The beautiful Water Lily is July's flower of the month. The Water Lily is a water plant with round flat leaves that float on the water's surface. Fragrant and showy, the flowers last only a few days. A few days after the flower is pollinated, the stem tightens into a spring to bring it under the water, where it develops into a spongy berry with up to 2,000 seeds.



EXTERIOR DECORATING

Give yourself (or someone else) a garden retreat, or update an existing one. Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit followed by written suggestions to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store for details or to set up an appointment. Follow this easy link our [blog](#) to view before and after photographs of garden patios



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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M A R K E T



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!
SUMMER IS MARVELOUS!

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