



# The Spade & The Hoe

Volume 6 Issue 3

March 2008

## From the Desk of Pamela Frank

As I am dreaming of gardening in 2008 (can't wait), I recall my first garden. In the spring of 1981, my husband and I bought our first house. The backyard was large and mostly sunny. It looked as if someone had tried to garden there. There were a few plants and bushes here and there. But considering the size of the flower beds, there wasn't much plant material in them. There were rhubarb near the vegetable garden, a burning bush, a mock orange, a few scattered tulips and a daylily. Were the beds stripped by a previous owner when they moved? Or did most of the plant life disappear from neglect? There were no peonies and I had to have peonies. So I went to the Sears Garden Center in Golf Mill and bought three peony plants, a white, a pink and a red. We planted them near the house. I also ordered plants from Klemm's and shopped at local garden centers. Some friendly gardeners gave me tubers. My garden ended up with 20 or more peonies, lots of roses, lilies, iris, delphiniums, clematis and columbines. I got a bridal wreath from my mother's yard, honeysuckle and bleeding hearts. The beds were full and vibrant. I miss my old garden and the plants I had to leave behind when we moved to Glenview. When I look at pictures of that garden, I think it was gorgeous, and I have fond memories.

## March Meeting

The program for the March 11th, Tuesday, meeting will be by Mari Mackenbach on how to arrange flowers from the grocery store. The arrangements will be given as door prizes. We will meet at the Police Station at 7:15 P.M.

## Correction to the Membership List:

Please correct the email listing for Justine Dial. The correct address is [justiner-dial@comcast.net](mailto:justiner-dial@comcast.net).

*Thanks to Nancy Olderr for the February refreshments.*

## Mature Trees?

The following plants will grow in the dry shade under mature trees:

Shrubs: barberry, aralia, red chokeberry, gray dogwood, honeysuckle bush, euonymus, St. Johnswort, privet, spicebush, bayberry, Alpine currant, snowberry, yew and yellowroot.

Grasses: Northern sea oats and ribbon grass.

Perennials: ajuga (bugleweed), alchemilla mollis (lady's mantle), brunnera macrophylla (forget-me-not), convallaria majalis (lily-of-the-valley), epimedium (barrenwort), euonymus fortunei (euonymus), hemerocallis (daylily), heuchera (coral bells), hosta (hosta), Hedera helix (English ivy), lamium maculatum (spotted deadnettle), liriopse (lilyturf) and vinca minor (periwinkle).

Vines: akebia, climbing hydrangea and Virginia creeper.

Through the Garden Gate I peeked out my kitchen window near the end of February and saw daffodils, 2" tall! And, later that day, Dan saw a robin taking a drink of water. What sights for sore eyes! Spring will come whether or not winter wants to stay. I've been spending many afternoon hours riffling through the garden catalogs, comparing cultivars and prices, checking out everything. Soon I'll put in my orders and making sure to give them a date of delivery for the plants. Our last frost date is May 10-24. Some like to take a chance and plant early, but I usually wait until that last half of the month. Isn't it fun to be thinking of planting? And flowers? And warm sunshine? Let the snow and cold and ice be gone! We are gardeners first and foremost, and we want to get out there and dig, dig, dig!

Daffodils,  
That come before the swallow  
dares, and take  
The winds of March with beauty.  
- William Shakespeare



### Fighting Pests the Green Way

For those of us who struggle with deer, rabbits and/or chipmunks, here a tidy solution:

Deer & Rabbit Repellent. A 32 oz. pump spray bottle with two 2 oz. bottles of concentrate that you mix at home for \$22.99, available at Chalet Nursery. It comes with a glowing recommendation by Jennifer Brennan who said "I battled chipmunks all summer, but once I applied Deer & Rabbit Solution, they ran away and never came back." Sounds too good to be true? Try it out and see.

*A gardener's work is never at an end.*

John Evelyn (1620-1706)  
From *Kalendarium Hortense in The Sweet Life*

### Another Tip

Do you schlep heavy pots around? Want to do it the easy way? Also at the Chalet is an elastic thingamajig that makes lifting up to 200 pounds a piece of cake. It's called a Pot Lifter, costs \$24.95, and you can move heavy pots, stones, firewood, and root balls up to an 84" circumference.

### Welcome to My Garden

My garden is never finished. My garden has weeds, earwigs, beetles, slugs and caterpillars, so my garden has holes, worms and butterflies. My garden has flowers, trees, a house, tomatoes, peppers, and herbs. My garden has compost piles and a tiny pond, a path and surprises, sounds and secrets. My garden has birds, squirrels, chipmunks, raccoons, opossums, and mice. My garden has grass, powdery mildew, black spot and apple scab. My garden has a family, a club and friends. My garden has a bench, an arbor and trellises. My garden has love. My garden has me.

- The gardener  
(to paraphrase a note from D. McAndrew)



I'm a broken-hearted gardener and don't know what to do,  
My love she is inconstant and a fickle jade too;  
One smile from her lips will never be forgot,  
It refreshes like a show from a watering pot.  
Oh, Oh! She's a fickle wild rose,  
A damask, a cabbage, a young China rose.  
She's my myrtle, my geranium,  
My sunflower, my sweet marjoram.  
My honeysuckle, my tulip, my violet,  
My hollyhock, my dahlia,  
My little mignonette.

From *The Broken-Hearted Gardener*, in *The Sweet Life* by Laura Stoddart

*A modest garden contains, for those who know how to look and to wait, more instruction than a library.*

Henri Frederic Amiel  
(1821-1881)

### Dried Flowers

Want to know which flowers make the best dried flowers? Artemisia, astilbe, gypsophila (baby's breath), monarda (beebalm), liatris (blazing star), physalis (Chinese lantern), allium (chives), delphinium, baptisia (false indigo), echinops (globe thistle), centaurea (globe thistle), solidago (goldenrod), hydrangea, stachys (lamb's ear), lavendula (lavender), alchemilla mollis (lady's mantle), aconitum (monkshood), origanum (oregano), paenonia (peony), papaver (poppy), salvia (sage), sedum, Siberian iris, goniolimon (statice), tanacetum (tansy), achillea (yarrow) are the perennials. The annuals are broomcorn, celosia, gomphrena (globe amaranth), gourds, larkspur, capsicum (peppers), salvia, limonium (statice), helichrysum (straw flowers), and artemisia (sweet annie). Among the biennials are lunaria (honesty) and dipsacus (teasel).

**According to our 2008 program schedule, there are two programs in December and no mention of a holiday dinner. I would like to cancel the "Winter Greenery for Containers" program at Red's Nursery and schedule the holiday dinner.**

Pam Frank

### Annuals for Shady Areas:

balsams, begonias), browallias, coleus, fuchsias, impatiens, lobelias, nicotianas, pansies, torenias, vincas, and violas.

### Ornamental trees are:

Japanese maples, European alder, serviceberry, Eastern redbud, pagoda dogwood and cornelian cherry dogwood. goutweed (plant only where it can be contained!), ajuga, wild ginger, purpleleaf winter-creeper, bigleaf winter-creeper, English ivy, Japanese spurge, and periwinkle.

### Evergreens are:

azalea, wintergreen boxwood, hinoki cypress, holly (plant male and female together), kalmia, mahonia, pyracantha, rhododendron, yew and Canadian hemlock.

### Vines are:

bittersweet, clematis, bigleaf winterleaf, hydrangea, lonicera (vining honeysuckle), Boston ivy, Virginia creeper and silverlace vine.

- from Chalet Nursery

*"I shall soon be rested," said Fanny; "to sit in the shade on a fine day, and look upon verdure, is the most perfect refreshment."*

Jane Austen (1775-1817)  
From *Mansfield Park*





### Guest Columnist —

We are in need of some volunteers for Guest Columnist for the next few months. Kindly let the Editor know if you'd like to 'do' a month.

### Shrubs for Shady Areas, con't.:

bottlebrush buckeye, red and black chokeberry, Northern Lights series of azaleas, sweetshrub, summersweet, redbud, variegated and gray dogwood, hazelnut, cotoneaster, cranberry cotoneaster, fothergilla, vernal and common witchhazel, 'Annabelle', peegee and oakleaf hydrangea, winterberry, Japanese kerria, Cheyenne privet, red honeysuckle, Northern bayberry, sweet mockorange, ninebark, fragrant sumac, alpine currant, fragrant Koreanspice, arrowwood, nannyberry, blackhaw, Mohican viburnum and American cranberrybush.

### Have generally wet conditions?

You can still have flowers: swamp milkweed (*asclepias incarnata*), blue joint grass (*calamagrostis canadensis*), sedges (*carex*), Joe Pye weed (*eupatorium maculatum*), common boneset (*eupatorium perfoliatum*), rice cut grass (*leersia oryzoides*), common water horehound (*lycopus americanus*), dark green rush (*scirpus atrovirens*), great bulrush (*scirpus validus*), prairie cordgrass (*spartina pectinata*), and common cattail (*typha latifolia*).

### In March, remember to:

- start seeds of warm season plants indoors;
- prune out weak, diseased or dead raspberry canes;
- plan the vegetable garden, remembering to rotate peppers, tomatoes, eggplant and potatoes every few years;
- sow radish and lettuce seeds;
- prune fruit trees before they bloom;
- remember to keep a garden diary;
- check stored tools for rust if you didn't clean and oil them last fall;
- when ordering plants via mail, be sure to indicate a delivery date;
- rake winter debris from the lawn;
- divide hostas and daylilies before growth starts;
- repot and fertilize houseplants as new growth appears;
- cacti will bloom sooner if root-bound, so keep them in a small pot.

*I asked a schoolboy, in the sweet summertime, 'what he thought a garden was for?' and he said Strawberries. His younger sister suggested Croquet and the elder Gardenparties. The brother from Oxford made a prompt declaration in favour of Lawn Tennis and Cigarettes, but he was rebuked by a Solemn senior...and was told that 'a garden was designed for botanical research, and for the classification of plants'.*

*The Rev. Samuel Hole  
(1819-1904)*

*From Is He Dead Yet?  
In The Sweet Life*

### What's Blooming Table

Thanks to Brigitte for displaying her stunning orchid and to Susan Fine for her 'Golden Rain' paperwhites. Please bring your blooming or growing plants to the March meeting.

### www.glenviewgardeners.org

Pamela Frank, President  
832-0630  
lp2jfrank@hotmail.com

Gloria Tralmer, Vice-President  
gtralmer@aol.com

Sheldon Kimel, Treasurer  
657-0772  
jackishelly@sbcglobal.net

Marlene Bothfeld, Programs  
205-0184

Holly Jansen, Garden Walk  
729-7729  
hollyjj77@yahoo.com

Nancy Spears, Publicity  
nancy@spears.net

Jane Prentis, Circulation  
jrprentis@msn.com

Bonnie Kimoto, Hospitality  
486-9048  
bonnie.kimoto@sbcglobal.net

Esther Behnke, Editor  
498-4178  
eabehnke@earthlink.net

### ggardeners@earthlink.net

The Spade and The Hoe is the official publication of the Glenview Gardeners.

