

Volume 8, Issue 7

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## Scripps-Mesa Garden Club

### Our Club Is Happiest Out in a Garden



*See p.2 for Salad Supper sign-ups*

Scripps-Mesa Garden Club gathered for its second meeting this year to enjoy the variety of plants in Char Fitzgerald's yard. Char has been actively gardening for 22 years in her Scripps Ranch hilltop property. Her collection of native and imported blooms made for an interesting tour. She has several unique plants that members had not heard of before which prompted enlightening conversation. The tour was followed by a social time with refreshments contributed by members.



# Summer Salad Celebration

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

at Brydon Bennett's

6:00 PM



## Celebrate summer, our gardens and being together!

Each member is asked to contribute something for a Salad Supper.

Let's plan for 20 attendees. Please bring serving utensils for your contribution.

Suggestions include: Greens ( lettuce, spinach, kale, etc.), dressings, tomatoes, peppers, onions, carrots & celery, cukes, squash, hardboiled eggs, beans, cheese, nuts, loaves of bread (sliced), and any other items or a specialty favorite. Actually, share anything you enjoy in your salad!

Email me Susan Castellana, [sbccre8z@gmail.com](mailto:sbccre8z@gmail.com), and I will coordinate the menu.



## 2020 Scripps-Mesa Garden Club Officers

**President**

?

**Secretary**

?

**Speakers**

Helen Plutner &  
Lynnell Hallock

**Room Coordinator**

Louise Badham

**Refreshments**

Susan Castellana

**Website**

Brydon Bennett

**Treasurer**

Char Fitzgerald

**Newsletter & Publicity**

Denise Stewart

*denise.stewart@hotmail.com*

**New Officers Needed**

**Treasurer's Report**

\$650.65

## July Garden Chores



**Yank your Peruvian lily stalks out of the ground.** Peruvian lilies (*Alstroemeria*) If you leave them in the garden, it is best to yank the spent stalks out of the ground rather than cut them. Yanking out the stalks will stimulate the production of more flower stalks.

**Add an Australian native plant.** At this time of year when you must refrain from planting most of our region's native plants, you can plant an Aussie instead.

**Keep after the whiteflies!** The hotter it gets, the more annoying the whitefly (*Trialeurodes vaporariorum*) becomes.

**Check on your outdoor lighting.** Outdoor lighting not only adds a whole extra layer to the garden, but it also allows us to enjoy extra evening hours outside.

**Prune** July is a great month to prune your berry plants. As the [berries](#) finish up, cut out any old canes from blackberry or raspberry plants. If you see any [sickly parts](#) of the plants, it's a good idea to prune those parts as well. This should give your plants a higher chance of production in the following year.

**Harvest Potatoes** When July hits, it's time to begin harvesting [potatoes](#). You'll notice the tops of the potato plants will turn brown and fall over. When this happens, you can dig up the potatoes. Save the larger potatoes to reseed and keep the smaller potatoes to eat.

**Sow** You should sow collards and [carrots](#) for your [fall garden](#). The seeds are tiny and can be difficult to space evenly.

**Manage Weeds** Weeds can become a problem during July. It's important to stay on top of them, or they'll take over your garden.

**Canning** If you're an [avid canner](#), this month will be one of your busiest months. The reason being, most of the vegetables in your garden will be ready for harvest this month.

**Harvest Your Garden** Finally, be sure to harvest your garden regularly this month. The more you [collect](#), the more it encourages your garden to produce even more.



# Cicadas' song never to be forgotten

by Susan Castellana



**1. Dime sized holes left after cicadas emerged from ground.**

**2. Exoskeletons with evidence holes where new cicadas 'broke' out.**

**3. Cicada carcasses left after several weeks of mating and egg laying.**

It was the spring of 2004 and on the US east coast the Brood X cicadas emerged and created quite a noisy "celebration" as the males were working to attract females. I remember because I was living in Northern Virginia.

Once you have heard the impressive song ( consider yourself lucky as only 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the US receives the privilege), lasting for weeks, you never forget it.

. Recently, in mid-June, I was in Virginia and the Brood X cicadas were performing.

Life cycle of the 17 Year Brood X Cicada:

The cicada show begins when the soil temperature reaches 64 degrees, primarily in the Eastern US ( geographical range stretching from Tennessee to New York).

Cicadas emerge from the ground en masse ( perhaps helping them avoid predation and also provides more possibilities for mates) burrowing or drilling up through the ground. Not bad for aeration or to allow rain water into the soil.

After mating, the female cicada climbs a tree and deposits her eggs.

Both the male and female cicadas die within a few weeks of emerging from the soil.

When the eggs hatch, the nymphs drop to the ground and burrow, living underground close to 8 feet down. They live eating sap and burrowing tunnels for 17 years.

The growing cicadas, emerge en mass, burrowing and drilling up through the earth, climb a plant or tree, and shed their skins , called moult, while the abandoned exoskeletons remain.

And the mating cycle and noise begin again. Get ready for 2038 and perhaps a trip to the eastern US!



I wish to thank all the visitors to my garden.  
And also, all the people who bought treats and drinks.  
I am happy it went well and the members all enjoyed it.  
We had 5 new members who came as well.  
Thank you,  
*Char*

## Scripps-Mesa Garden Club Newsletter



Email: [denise.stewart@hotmail.com](mailto:denise.stewart@hotmail.com)

Phone: 858-693-1456

Contributions of articles, suggestions, artwork, and gardening tips are warmly welcomed. This newsletter belongs to the Scripps-Mesa Garden Club members and is intended to reflect their gardening interests and experiences. Please take part in its mission and contribute an article or a photo.

**“ All gardening is landscape painting, “ said Alexander Pope..**

Rebecca Solnit, [Wanderlust: A History of Walking](#)

***God made rainy days so gardeners could get some housework done.***

***Just living is not enough. One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower.***

*Hans Christian Anderson*



***For you to pass out to interested gardeners***



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