



Regular Meeting – April 12, 2018

We will be meeting at the **Lucerne Valley Community Center** this month.

33187 Hwy 247 East, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Refreshments start at 9:00 am Meeting starts at 9:30 am

Program this Month: Garrison Nursery Visitation

Morning Refreshments: Anna-Maria & Pat Lugo

Drawing: Anna-Maria & Pat Lugo

Plant of the Month

Catmint
Nepeta mussinii



Catmint is an aromatic herb that is commonly grown in the garden. It produces clusters of lavender-blue flowers amid mounds of gray-green foliage. This easily grown plant is an interesting addition regarding its various uses in the landscape.

Many people wonder what is the difference between catnip and catmint. While basically considered the same plant that shares many of the same characteristics, there are differences between the two species. Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*) has less ornamental value in the garden than its catmint (*Nepeta mussinii*) counterpart.

Catnip is also found to be highly attractive to cats, with many of them exhibiting a naturally induced euphoria around the plant. They may nibble on it or even roll around in the foliage. This type is most suitable for “cat friendly” gardens. If you don’t want your garden overrun with felines, plant catmint instead, which is much less attractive to them.

Catmint herb is easy to grow. These plants are good for mass planting or edging and are suitable near vegetables as an insect deterrent – especially aphids and Japanese beetles. Also a very colorful plant in rock gardens.

Catmint can be grown in sun or partial shade with average, well-draining soil. They are even heat and drought tolerant, making them excellent plants for dry garden areas. Catmint is most often grown by seed or through plant division.

Some types of catmint plants can be aggressive therefore, you may want to grow in containers.

Youth Program

Wednesday, March 18 at 2pm will be the next after school project so be sure to let Linda know if you can come and help. There is always work in the school gardens to do and an indoor craft to help kids with. Contact Linda Riddle at the next meeting or call her at 760-403-1201 if you need more information.

Coming Events

- Apr 6 DCGC work-party for Dist. Meeting @ Linda’s
- April 6,7,8 Home & Garden Show Victorville
- Apr 12 Desert Crossroads Garden Club Meeting
Garrisons Nursery Visitation
- Apr 27 Memorial Tree Plantation & Home
Garden Tour
- May 3 DCGC work-party for Dist. Meeting @ Linda’s
- May 10 Roadrunner District Meeting – Host
Desert Crossroads Garden Club

Reminder!

**Roadrunner District, Inc. Membership Meeting
May 10, 2018**

Hosted by Desert Crossroads Garden Club

Theme: Vintage Farmers Market

The Committee for the District Meeting has been working on several projects to be sold/raffled at the meeting.

Linda needs donations for raffle baskets with themes of Patriotic (red, white & blue) and another one with a succulents theme. We need these items no later than the April club meeting.

What's In My Garden?

Red Worm

Eisenia Fetida



Red worms are nature's ultimate composting worm and a great pick for worm farms. Red worms go by many names. They're often called red wigglers, tiger worms, manure worms, composting worms, and the trout worms. Whatever you call them they're among the best composting worms available.

Red worms have many properties which make them ideal for the compost bin. Of all the worms suitable for worm farming the red worm is the most adaptable and hearty. Red wigglers can withstand a wide range of environmental conditions and changes that would kill most other breeds.

Unlike common earthworms that borrow deep into the soil red worms thrive in the first several inches of topsoil directly beneath decomposing vegetative organic matter. It really doesn't matter what the matter is red worms love it. Decaying leaves, grasses, wood, and animal manure are all favorites of red worms.

The red worm's voracious appetite makes it the champion of the compost bin and a virtual worm casting (a.k.a. worm poop) machines. Red worms are fairly small, generally getting no larger than 5 inches. But don't underestimate them. It is estimated that red worms eat nearly 3 times their weight each week.

Red worms like to live in colonies, often congregating into a writhing mass around a food source. Maintaining this close contact makes them prolific breeders and an ideal breed to raise in your worm farm. A 24" x 24" worm bin can easily house over 1000 red worms. However for those interested in raising bait worms it's good to remember that crowded red worms will remain fairly skinny and short. When given more room red worms will plump up into excellent fishing worms.

Your Club Officers

Presidents	Sherry Hardin	760-912-8310
	Sharon Ravenstein	760-248-6466
V. President	Pat Hart	760-248-6389
Secretary	Sara Delperdang	760-248-7614
Treasurer	Darla King	760-947-7925
Parliamentarian	Martha Rader	
Newsletter	Sara Delperdang	760-248-7614
	email information to - sjad05@outlook.com	

Find us on the Roadrunner District website at;
roadrunnergardenclubs.com

Affiliates

Roadrunner District, Inc. of California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Minutes of the March 8, 2018 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 by Co/President Sherry Hardin.

Inspirational poem was read by Anna-Maria Woodson.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sherry.

Guest introduced; Nila Hardin, Aleena Spradlin

Minutes were approved as mailed in newsletter.

Treasurers report was not available at this meeting.

Tree count this meeting. 0

Committee Reports

Penny Pines, Pat Lugo reported current balance at \$20.77.

Sunshine, Myra will send two cards.

Garden tour & Memorial Tree Planting Linda reported the Memorial Tree Planting Program will be at the Senior Center on April 27 at 9:00am. The Home Garden tour will be immediately following. The luncheon for the garden tour will cost \$5. each, need to sign-up right away.

School Youth Program, Linda reported they have been planting the new containers at the Elementary School Program. The School Butterfly Garden will be planted on Wednesday, March 21 at 2:00pm.

Water Awareness Garden, Sue Nolan will be holding another garden cleanup on Thursday, March 22 at 9:00am.

Old Business

The annual plant sale will be on Saturday, May 5th. Everyone was encouraged to grow and bring plants to the sale. A bulletin board with kids projects to be displayed with a donation can to raise money for kids programs.

Roadrunner District will have a booth at the Home Garden Show April 6-7-8 at the fairgrounds. Linda Riddle & Sue Nolan will put together a "Kids Growing Strong" program for Saturday April 7 from 10am-5pm. Members were asked to come and help if they can.

Linda Riddle will have another District Meeting planning and work party on Friday, April 6th at her house. She asked for items for the raffle to be brought no later than the April club meeting. She provided everyone with invitation cards to be handed out by club members so we will have a big showing. The girls have been busy making some really cool crafty items to sell.

New Business

Sue Nolan passed around seed balls for everyone to make and take home to plant.

Martha Rader has cactus to give away if anyone wants them.

Program: Herbs by Sherry Hardin

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Sara Delperdang Secretary