



May 2017

News Bulletin

## Regular Meeting – May 11

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: "Transforming our Garden Soil" by Penny Harper**

**Morning Refreshments:** Myra & Sharon Ravenstein

**Drawing:** Myra & Sharon Ravenstein

### Plant of the Month

#### Lavender

Various types



Lavender plants are quite resilient, after all, they did come from the sunny Mediterranean region and even some desert regions. The thing to keep in mind when growing Lavender is that not all plants are hardy in all locales. Tender varieties unless grown as annuals will need to be potted up and overwintered inside.

There are Lavenders that tolerate heat but cannot deal with frost. Then there are some that can withstand cold (called hardy Lavender plants), such as *Lavender angustifolia*, to temps below zero degrees. Choosing the right plant for your area and climate zone is necessary if you plan on a permanent planting outside and want it to successfully come back every spring.

Lavenders grow in many different countries and climate regions but all of them basically require the same care and growing conditions. Plant Lavender plants in full sun, which means at the very least 6 hours or more, as that is what this plant needs to thrive.

This is one plant that you don't need to fertilize. If you add fertilizer it will spur it to growing a lot of leaves and make it less fragrant. Poor, lean soil produces a plant that has a higher concentration of essential oils which equates to higher fragrance. The soil needs to be a light sandy mix which allows for good drainage. These plants hate "wet feet" and they prefer dry alkaline soils (ph 7.1) over acid ones. Lavender is very drought tolerant, don't overwater.

You also don't have to worry about spraying for pests which makes this plant easy to care for.

### Youth Program

The next School Youth Garden program will be May 19, 2017 at the Elementary School at 2:00.

Linda and Sue will be working in the school gardens, we have three gardens at the elementary school now, and Linda Boruff and Sara Delperdang have an indoor craft program for the kids.

Please contact Linda if you want to help 760-248-6397.

### Lavender Festival

June 9-11, 16-18



CHERRY VALLEY--The annual Lavender Festival hosted at Highland Springs Resort is one of the highlights to summer for lavender lovers and those just finding out about the amazing plant that offers so many benefits to humans.

Held on the grounds of a lavender farm in the Inland Empire region near Banning, the venue is a much sought after destination for weddings, anniversaries and special events. The best way to learn about it is during the annual festival held in June. With only a \$5 admission fee guests can take rides through the fields in a horse drawn cart, visit the vendors showcase of organic products, listed to live classical music and sip lavender lemonade, lavender lattes or tasting lavender ice cream.

Workshops are offered throughout the day, as well as kids activities in this event for all ages to enjoy.

Highland Springs Resort has received lots of press and you'll be impressed when you visit. Founded over 100 years ago, the establishment out in the country has been so successful because of its warm hospitality and connection with nature. There are only several rooms available for a stay, but the prices are really quite reasonable.

## Coming Events

May 6 Club Annual Plant Sale, Market Porch  
May 11 Desert Crossroads Garden Club Meeting  
May 23 Roadrunner District, Inc. Membership Meeting – Hesperia  
May 30-Jun 1 CGCI Convention – San Luis Obispo  
June 2 Kids Last Day at School Program  
June 8 Desert Crossroads Garden Club Potluck & Installation  
June 9-11, 16-18 Lavender Festival, Cherry Valley

## Your Club Officers

President	Linda Riddle	760-248-6397
V. President	Ana Warriner	760-285-3004
Secretary	Martha Rader	760-248-7871
Treasurer	Darla King	760-947-7925
Parliamentarian	Shirley Clemmons	
Newsletter	Sara Delperdang	760-248-7614

Find us on the Roadrunner District website at:  
[roadrunnergardenclubs.com](http://roadrunnergardenclubs.com)

### Affiliates

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

## Upcoming Events

### Roadrunner District, Inc. Membership Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at the Percy Bakker Community Center in Hesperia the Hesperia Garden Club will host the Annual Roadrunner District Membership Meeting, Luncheon and Installation of 2017-19 officers. These meetings are not only fun to attend but important to keep the information and support flowing between the high desert garden clubs. The district will be installing new officers for the next term. For more information or car pooling contact Linda Riddle.

### Desert Crossroads Garden Club

### 35 Year Anniversary Luncheon & Installation

June 8, 2017, our regular meeting date. Sharon and Sherry want us all to bring favorite pictures or items from our gardens to share as our program. They also want us to bring flowers, greenery or colorful foliage from our gardens for the table centerpieces. Vases (jars) will be provided. Blue/Lavender will be the color theme. This sounds like great fun and a way for everyone to get involved. The drawing table will also be up to the membership to bring garden related items. For the potluck everyone is asked to bring their favorite dish...no matter if its salad, dessert, or a main course. We may end up with all desserts...how fun is that!

**Don't forget to pay your dues!**

## New Officers for 2017-19



Co Presidents -Sherry Hardin & Sharon Ravenstein  
Vice President - Pat Hart  
Treasurer - Darla King  
Secretary - Sara Delperdang

## What's In My Garden?

### Horned Lizard *phrynosoma*



Horned lizards are found only in the western portions of the United States and Mexico. There are 14 recognized species, the most common horned lizard in the western deserts is aptly named the **desert horned lizard**. There are two subspecies, the **northern** which inhabits the Great Basin desert, and the **southern** which inhabits the Sonoran and Mojave Deserts including northern Baja California.

Regardless of where they occur, there is a similarity in their habits, in the fall they hibernate by burying themselves in the sand. They emerge in the spring when the sun's rays have reached a certain temperature.

The first few hours of the day are spent basking in the sun usually flattened on a rock. As soon as their body temperature rises to a specific degree, they begin foraging for food. As the heat of the day increases, they become more active, feeding on slow-moving, ground dwelling insects, spiders, sow bugs and occasional tick. Although ants seem to be their major food source. They do not pursue their victim hastily, like some lizards, but poise over it and methodically take it, in toad like fashion with a flick of their long sticky tongue. After feeding, when ground temperatures become too hot, they seek the shade of a shrub partially concealing themselves. In the evening, while its still warm they dig in for the night. Sometimes they bury themselves 3 or 4 inches deep, and other times they just leave the top of the head and eyes exposed.

Their coloration is such that they blend readily into their surroundings, making them difficult to find. However, when found partially covered with sand, they are rather easily captured. Their defense mechanisms are quite limited. On occasion they spurt blood from the corners of their eyes, which is startling, to say the least.

Mating occurs in late April, peaks in June and stops abruptly in July. Egg laying starts a few weeks later, the number of eggs varies from 10-30. The hatchlings receive no parental care so when they emerge they immediately start hunting for food.