

## THE 2010 GARDEN TOUR

By Janet Walker

The Garden Tour Committee is putting together the tour for this coming April 18, 2010. April is approaching quickly!!

In my last newsletter article, I neglected to inform you of the most exciting aspect of the garden tour ever!! This year we will celebrate a special event – the 100th birthday of the home of David and Diane Martens. They will be serving birthday cake and, for the first time ever, they will invite our guests to tour the downstairs of their Victorian beauty. Every year our guests ask if any homes will be open, so this will make this year's tour the best one yet!

We are now gathering gardens for the tour and will be previewing potential gardens. Please continue to peek in back yards and ask your neighbors if they might consider being part of this important event for our neighborhood. If you have any ideas, please give me a call! Janet Walker 407.648.5394.

### LAKE EOLA HEIGHTS HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

List any committees you are interested in  
(Garden of Month, Holiday Decorations, Traffic,  
School Liaison, Roundabout Maintenance)  
or comments/suggestions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues are \$15 per household  
Please make checks payable to LEHHNA  
Dues may be submitted at meetings or mailed to:  
LEHHNA c/o Diane Martens  
229 E. Amelia St.  
Orlando, FL 32801-1303

## LEARN TO GROW ...

Continued from page 1

Most folks know butterflies need nectar from flowers for food. But they are more likely to remain if there is shelter for roosting and, more importantly, a larval food source for their caterpillars. As certain species need specific plants, these relationships teach the interconnectedness of all living things. And it is fun to watch the caterpillars grow fat on a parsley sprig, then form a chrysalis and eventually an adult butterfly.

Another easy way to teach the idea of habitat relationships is a containerized water garden. It can be as simple as a 15-gallon galvanized tub. Fill the "pond" with tap water and let it rest a few days for the chlorine to evaporate. Add some river-washed pebbles and some aquatic plants, both rooted and floaters. Then collect some minnows (gambusias) from a lake and enjoy. Goldfish are a more colorful option. Minnows tolerate a low oxygen level in the water, but the key is to have plants that filter the water, remove carbon and add oxygen. The fish provide CO2 and "fertilizer" for the plants. It's a complete cycle that just needs to have the water replenished occasionally. Collected rainwater is best, but tap water is OK if you let it rest a day or two before adding it to the tub.

Children will learn responsibility from feeding and adding water to the "pond" and also see first hand how plants and animals depend on each other. And a water garden adds a sense of tranquility to any garden.

Some of these ideas were put into practice this past spring when LEHHNA volunteers partnered with Hillcrest Elementary PTA to plant a teaching garden on campus. The kids love it and it doubles as a meditation garden for the teachers when the kids are in class.

Happy gardening!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

from local arts groups, including the International Harp Museum, also were willing to contribute time and expertise to the effort.

My question at this point is how can this structure fit into the current plans of the Diocese to rehabilitate the buildings that they own? Their current "Alive in Christ" campaign has a fund-raising goal of \$150 million for this very purpose. Can a small portion of the fund be set aside to stabilize the structure now?

Our neighborhood association has already expressed an interest in partnering with the Diocese to rehabilitate the structure into something the whole community can use. It is time to form a board, identify a vision and mission for this structure and start a fund-raising process. Let us come together as a neighborhood, set our sights high and turn this jewel into an asset for the Orlando community once again.