



in this issue

Behind the Garden Gate 2
 Nursery Notes 2
 Elizabeth Clarkson 3
 Elizabeth Lawrence 3
 Spring Classes insert
 Animal Profile 5
 What's in the Wings 6
 Cooking with Dee 7
 In Honor / Memory 8

Enjoy Spring In Full Swing at the Wing Haven Plant Sale!

Members' Day* Tuesday, April 20 **NEW HOURS! 10 am - 7 pm**
Wednesday, April 21 - Saturday, April 24 10 am - 4 pm

**Be sure your membership is current for Members' Day. Call the Wing Haven office at 704.331.0664 to confirm your membership, or join at the door!*

Join us during the sale for these **FREE** programs every day at 10:30 am:

<i>Wednesday, April 21</i>	<i>Friday, April 23</i>
Something Native with Carol Buie Jackson	Spring Bling Containers with Woodie Robinson
<i>Thursday, April 22</i>	<i>Saturday, April 24</i>
Spring Cut Flowers from the Garden	Organic Plant Health with Billy Styles

Wing Haven's Annual Gardeners' Garden Tour

Our 2010 tour features six very special private gardens as well as Wing Haven. Each of the six private gardens was created by the homeowner - "hands-on" gardeners who will be available to answer your questions and share their experiences. Join us for a fantastic weekend!

Saturday, May 8, 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday, May 9, 1 pm - 5 pm

*"Spring would not
be spring without
bird songs."*

Francis M. Chapman

Mark Your Calendars... Sign Up Now!

see the spring classes insert for details

Saturday, May 22, 10 am to noon

Lavender Morning Workshop with Cathy Tolman

Tuesday, May 25, 10 am

Elizabeth Lawrence: Gardener, Writer, Friend, and Neighbor

A Celebration of a Life Well Lived with Emily Wilson





Thoughts from Behind the Garden Gate

a message from executive director Dia Steiger

I guess spring is really here, for the silver bells are out, and the golden bells are out, and the blue bells, but you would not know it from the weather. It was below thirty when I went out to market this morning.

The coming of spring is like the coming of a person you love, you always think it will be the same and it is always different. Or maybe it is you who are different.

Elizabeth Lawrence, 1943
from Becoming Elizabeth Lawrence
edited by Emily Wilson

Just when we needed it most, spring 2010 has arrived... and not a moment too soon. Both gardens are filled with bloom, fragrance and birdsong as if, by magic, a switch were turned.

During these next few months, we will welcome guests of all ages. This is a season when our gardens shine! Please take the time to step outside of your busy routine and savor spring at Wing Haven. You'll be richer for having done so.

I hope to see you in our gardens soon.



Scilla siberica 'Spring Beauty' was one of Elizabeth Lawrence's favorite early spring bulbs.

Nursery Notes

It's a Spring Fling at Wing Haven's Nursery Shop! We are practically bursting at the seams with unique plants, tools, and garden gifts. Come fulfill your gardening dreams with our spectacular selection of plants, fabulous containers, and a brand new selection of accessories to enhance your home and garden. Our Nursery volunteers are ready to assist you and provide advice on how to keep your plants happy and healthy.

In the Gift Shop, we have specialized gardening tools as well as an array of organic products. And don't forget about the little ones as they discover

and learn to enjoy Nature... visit our children's section that includes great books and tools to fit little hands.

A stroll through the Nursery will tickle your senses... whet your appetite for a kitchen garden teeming with delicious herbs and lettuces, delight in the fragrance of heirloom roses, create a secret garden filled with three seasons of bulbs, perennials and wildflowers, and listen for the chorus of birds singing from the branches of your new trees and shrubs. Let us help you cultivate your own sanctuary and begin your own legacy of southern horticulture!

NOTE OUR NEW EXTENDED HOURS

for Members' Day*:

Tues., April 20 **10 am - 7 pm**

Wed., April 21 - Sat., April 24 10 am - 4 pm

*To be sure your membership is current for Members' Day, call the Wing Haven office at 704.331.0664. Not already a member? Join at the door!

Wing Haven's 2009 Annual Membership Report Correction

Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Dortch are Grand Patron members.

We apologize for the error in their listing.

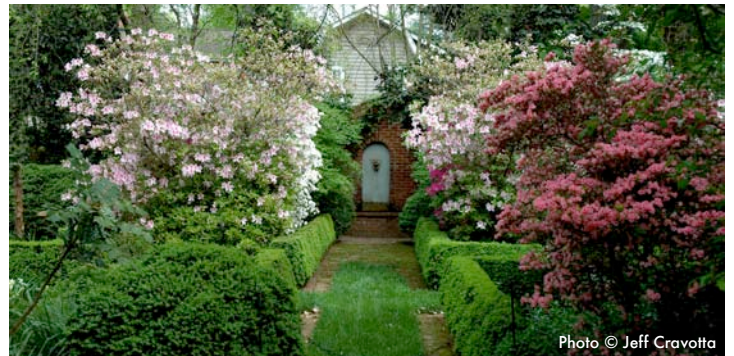


Photo © Jeff Cravotta

Elizabeth's Journal

Elizabeth Clarkson started her journals on gardening and birds on February 6, 1933, when she was 28 years old. Ten of her journals were discovered by Mildred Harris and Wanny Hogewood, tucked away in a bedroom drawer.

Saturday, March 30, 1940

We were all paced this morning to go to Natamuskeet Lake and were to leave at 7 a.m. but thunder and lightning and rain began about 5 a.m. so we did not go. It is just as well as the weeping cherries are in full bloom and we can enjoy a quiet weekend at home in the garden. In the hotbed my petunias and ageratum are up. Last Sunday, Easter, my garden was beautiful, every daffodil was in bloom and also the little blue French Roman Hyacinths. When we came out of Easter church service it was snowing and continued all day. That night the temperature was 23 and Monday night it was 22 so it laid my daffodils and hyacinths low and nipped all daylily foliage but didn't really do as much damage generally as might be expected. The pair of Blue Birds began nesting earlier than usual this year. She began to build the 2nd of March in the old box on upper lot and she is sitting now. They come constantly to my window-feeding tray to eat bits of American cheese and occasional black walnuts and peanut butter. They have come every day during the winter, as have the Mocking Bird, Myrtle Warblers, Carolina Wrens and White Throated Sparrows. I have seen cardinals, Blue Birds, Mocking Birds,

Carolina Wrens, Myrtle Warblers, Pine Warblers, White Throated Sparrows, Song Sparrows, Robins, Brown Thrashers, Chickadees, Blue Jays, Starlings and several others which I could not see well enough without my field glasses to identify. We went to see Mickey Rooney and Young Tom Edison tonight and it was splendid.

Tuesday, April 16, 1940

Today has been most exciting. First the Blue Birds left the nest and we thought something had happened to them because we could neither see nor hear them and the parents fussed for two solid hours and did not feed them but after lunch she began to carry cheese from the window sill to them. However, we haven't seen them yet. Then Sylvia, the Russian Wolf Hound, flushed a Chuck Will's Widow from the leaves near the oak tree and we watched it where it settled for about ten minutes within 8 feet of it. Eddie got the camera and I took a picture of it but I'm sure it wasn't good as it was too shady. All of the birds fussed the entire morning and we couldn't find anything except the Chuck Will's Widow. We did try to kill a snake but it got away. Rosetta was about to knock the Chuck Wills Widow out of the tree with a stick

of wood when I stopped her. She thought it was an owl. The House Wren came back today. I heard him early this morning when I first awakened just chattering away. When I came back this afternoon I found that another old friend was back, a male Hummingbird and he was one of the old ones because he went to the feeders and sat on the back of the chairs on the terrace and was perfectly at home. I'm looking for my Catbird any day now. I went over to Concord this afternoon and made a talk on birds to two book clubs at Mrs. Bernard Fetzer's. She has a lovely garden and is such a sweet person. She gave me a little herb, a variety of Thyme that smells exactly like lemon verbena. I have the regular lemon Thyme but mine does not have the distinct lemon fragrance like the one she gave me. Just before dinner Eddie and I looked at the Chuck Will's Widow again. He was still on the same lower limb of the pine with his big eyes closed to narrow slits.



Mellow the Yellow... Think Pink gardening wisdom from Elizabeth Lawrence

Everyone greets the first daffodil with the feeling that there cannot be too much sunlight or too much yellow in the world. But a few weeks of jasmine, forsythia, and the narcissus King Alfred bring the conviction that there can be too much of anything. In this frame of mind I began digging up the masses of forsythia and jasmine that had overgrown the shrub border, offering them to all those new enough to gardening to be willing to take anything offered, and going about from garden to garden to see if anyone was discarding pink. I collected a purpleleaf

plum to add to the flowering almonds from Mrs. Toy's garden in Chapel Hill, and redbuds from the old man who sells them from door to door (garden-club conservationists do not inquire too closely into his source of supply). These, with *Spiraea thunbergii* and an apple-blossom quince are to be a background for my white daffodils. The daffodils are in drifts along a path through what used to be Mammy's chicken yard... Something had to be done with [the chicken yard], so I am making a combination of a copse and rock garden.

I am not at all sure what a copse is, but I gather from English books that it is a shaded path bordered by ferns and other woody things. There are peach seedlings in my copse - a legacy from the chickens - much nicer I think than the double-flowering kind. They are very lovely with the white daffodils (but, please, not with yellow).

Elizabeth Lawrence
A Southern Garden

TITLE SPONSOR

Blackhawk Hardware

The Gardens

at Park Road Shopping Center
(corner of Park and Woodlawn roads)

AFFILIATE SPONSORS



Practicality is the gardener's worst enemy. "This plant is from Florida - of course I can't grow it in my Michigan garden"; "I saw it growing in standing water - it will never tolerate my well-drained, sandy loam." Not so fast! Common sense all too often results in a stiff, boring inventory of plants and a garden that looks mass produced. Throw all preconceived notions out the window, plant wildly, laugh at the failures, and smugly savor the successes.
Daniel J. Hinkley
The Explorer's Garden - Rare and Unusual Perennials

2010 Gardeners' Garden Tour

Presented by Blackhawk Hardware the Gardens

They are wild and wonderful, serene and surprising, native and exotic, and all very special spaces that reflect each gardener's unique personality. These are the gardens on Wing Haven's 17th annual Gardeners' Garden Tour.

The gardens are a variety of sizes and designs and include a tree house for "grown ups", a circular hosta garden, water features, and collections of unusual and hard-to-find plants. Also highlighted on the tour is how to use more readily available plant material with extraordinary results.

****NEW!**** Enjoy a **boxed lunch** at Wing Haven or as a snack while you tour. Boxed lunches will be \$12, provided by *Delectables by Holly*, and **must be pre-ordered by 4 pm, Friday, May 7**. Look for full details in the brochure coming soon to your mailbox.

Plan to join us Saturday, May 9th and Sunday May 10th for yet another memorable Wing Haven Gardener's Garden Tour!

Truly a Haven for Business or Play hold your next business or social event at wing haven!

With the introduction of our recently remodeled Education Building, Wing Haven now has two beautiful venues for corporate retreats, business meetings, and small social events like showers, bridesmaids' luncheons, and dinner parties. Please share our availability with everyone you know at work and among friends!

The Education Building (The Willow Oak Room) boasts updated technology with wireless Internet access, stereo sound for iPod or CD use, an LCD projector for PowerPoint presentations, and a catering service kitchen. The free-standing room can accommodate up to 40 for a business

meeting, and 50 for a lecture format or standing cocktail-type reception.

The Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden offers a spacious living room with an adjoining brick-paved sunroom that opens onto the garden. The garden features a small central pool bordered by a brick patio and flanked by benches. Up to 50 guests can be accommodated, depending upon the event.

Guests can enjoy a stroll through the gardens at either venue - a lovely addition to any event.

We are grateful to the following businesses that have made generous in-kind contributions to the remodeling and furnishing of our two venues:

- Alfred Williams & Co.
- Circa Interiors and Antiques
- Fine Design Interiors
- Lindsay Daniel Architecture
- Traditions Interiors and Accents
- Video Systems of the Carolinas

For more information on either venue, contact Cathy Tolman at 704.331.0664, ext. 108 or ctolman@carolina.rr.com.

No Experience Required: Volunteer at Wing Haven Today!

news from the wing haven auxiliary council

So many new things have been happening at Wing Haven this year that it is hard to keep up! One of the latest changes has come about regarding the recruitment and coordination of our many volunteer activities. Previously known as the Society Board, The Wing Haven Auxiliary Council is the group responsible for coordinating many of these activities.

One of the first actions of the Council in the new year was to host a new volunteer coffee. The Wing Haven Auxiliary Council invited anyone interested in getting involved as a volunteer at Wing Haven to come hear representatives from many of our activities describe what they do and how they do it. Council representatives and Staff from the

Nursery, Gardens, Docents, Hospitality, Children's Programs, PEEPs, the Gardeners' Garden Tour, and Hosts each took a few minutes to describe the many benefits of getting involved, from fellowship and fun, good food and good company to education and, in so many ways, helping Wing Haven achieve its mission. The most consistent message was "no experience required".

If you are interested in helping Wing Haven, we will happily find a spot for you to help. If you would like to get involved or would like more information, please call the office at 704.331.0664.

We are excited that so many new people came to be an active part of the Wing Haven community, and encourage you to

come and join us, too! We look forward to seeing more of you as the weather warms up and the birds and gardens beckon.



Animal Profile

southern flying squirrel

The southern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*) is found throughout the deciduous forests of eastern North America from southern Ontario to the Gulf Coast. It is easily distinguished from other tree squirrels by its smaller size and by its gliding membrane, a fold of skin that extends from the wrist of the front leg to the ankle of the hind leg. When the front and hind legs are extended, the membrane forms a "wing" used for gliding. The squirrel uses its broad furry tail as a rudder and stabilizer. Its eyes are large and it has prominent ears and whiskers.

Southern flying squirrels are small; the adults are only nine to 10 inches long including the tail and weigh between two and four ounces. The upper body is grayish to brownish in color, and the underparts are creamy white. The eyes are surrounded by a black ring, and a black border extends along the edge of the gliding membrane.

Undoubtedly the most unusual habits of the southern flying squirrel are its gliding ability and its nocturnal behavior. Unlike

fox squirrels or gray squirrels that are active by day, the southern flying squirrel is a nocturnal mammal. (This probably explains why the flying squirrels who live in Charlotte are frequently eaten by our Barred Owls.)

The gliding of a flying squirrel is spectacular. The squirrel climbs up a tree and then launches itself with all four legs extended at right angles from the body, stretching the flying membrane. They are very adept at steering around branches or other obstacles. Most steering is done with the tail, but they also vary the tension on the membrane to steer and to control their speed. They usually manage to land upright on the trunk of another tree. Glides are typically shorter than 50 yards—they appear to have a maximum gliding ratio of about three horizontal feet for every vertical foot. a glide ratio that would allow them to travel the length of a football field from a perch 100 feet high.

Females can produce two litters per year - in early spring and mid-summer. Newborns are hairless and tiny, weighing

less than a quarter-ounce each. The gliding membrane is visible only as a transparent fold of skin.

Nuts, primarily acorns and hickory nuts, make up the bulk of the flying squirrel's diet. They will also eat various seeds, fruits, berries, mushrooms, buds, flower blossoms and tree bark. They may occasionally eat insects, bird eggs and nestlings, small nestling mammals, carrion, and adult shrews and mice.



© Joe McDonald

What's in the Wings

mark your calendar

APRIL

Friday	April 2	Wing Haven Offices Closed for Easter Holiday	
Tuesday	April 6	Carnivorous Plants!*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Thursday	April 15	Spring Greens*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Sunday	April 18	Patrons' Party	6 to 7:30 PM
Tuesday	April 20	Spring Plant Sale <i>Members' Day</i>	10 AM to 7 PM
Wednesday – Saturday	April 21-24	Spring Plant Sale	10 AM to 4 PM
Wednesday	April 28	Veggie 101*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Thursday	April 29	Feathered Friends*	3:45 to 4:45 PM

MAY

Thursday	May 6	A Gift from the Garden for Mom*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Saturday	May 8	Gardeners' Garden Tour	10 AM to 4 PM
Sunday	May 9	Gardeners' Garden Tour	1 to 5 PM
Tuesday	May 11	Planting a Pizza*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Tuesday	May 18	Buzzy Bees!*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Thursday	May 20	Butterflies Have Wings, too!*	3:45 to 4:45 PM
Tuesday	May 25	Elizabeth Lawrence: Gardener, Writer, Friend, and Neighbor*	10 AM
Wednesday	May 26	Let's Go for a Swim*	10 to 11 AM
Monday	May 31	Wing Haven Office closed	

JUNE

Wednesday	June 2	Breakfast with the Birds*	10 to 11 AM
Thursday	June 3	Breakfast with the Birds*	10 to 11 AM
Mon-Thursday	June 7 - 10	Camp Wing Haven I*	9:30 AM to Noon
Mon-Thursday	June 14 - 17	Camp Wing Haven II*	9:30 AM to Noon
Thursday	June 17	A Gift from the Garden for Dad*	3:45
Mon-Friday	June 21 - 25	Junior Master Gardener*	10 AM to 3 PM

* Advance registration is required. For more information, call Wing Haven (704.331.0664).

We Are Grateful for Even More Beauty in the Gardens!

Myers Park Garden Center and **Rountree Plantation** have donated bulbs of beautiful tulips and narcissus that you will see throughout the Wing Haven gardens this spring. These plantings will help create a lasting impression of Wing Haven Gardens & Bird Sanctuary and The Elizabeth Lawrence House & Garden for the many visitors we welcome each year, and the narcissus will provide blooms for years to come. Come to the gardens and enjoy them!

Thank you to **Warco Construction, Inc.** for providing professional room layout plans for our two rental venues that will help with our marketing and event management!





Fresh Herb Salad Dressing

- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 T. balsamic vinegar, white or dark
- 1 T. French Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp. each of fresh thyme, basil and marjoram....chopped fine
- 3 T. pure maple syrup
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. fresh ground pepper
- 3/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

In a mini-processor (or clean lidded jar), combine the vinegars, mustard, salt, pepper and maple syrup. Process or shake until it is completely mixed and the salt crystals have dissolved in the liquids. Add the olive oil a little at a time, blending well after each addition. Store unused portion in the refrigerator.

Making your own salad dressing is so easy and once you have tasted it you will most likely want to continue making it fresh. After you have made the recipe once, you may want to try some substitutions the next time to create your own blend... perhaps try a different type of mustard, or alter the type of vinegar used... or try honey as the sweetener.

*Why not try this delicious recipe with fresh herbs and lettuces from the Wing Haven Nursery?
Look for those culinary delights and much, much more at the Spring Plant Sale!*



Membership

The members of Wing Haven keep the garden gates open to the public. Surely one of the most endearing aspects of Wing Haven Gardens is that everyone is welcome. Your membership support and gifts to the Foundation keep the birds singing in the gardens.

Save a tree! Membership payment / renewal may also be made online at winghavengardens.com.

I would like to become a member
 renew my membership

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please send a gift membership in the amount of \$ _____
 from _____
 to NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

My total is \$ _____ and I wish to pay by:
 CHECK VISA MASTERCARD

CARD # _____
 EXPIRES _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual	\$ 45.00	Sponsor	\$ 500.00
Family	\$ 75.00	Benefactor	\$ 1,000.00
Patron	\$ 150.00	Founder	\$ 2,500.00
Grand Patron	\$ 250.00	Clarkson Society	\$ 5,000.00

Mail your completed form to: Wing Haven Foundation
 248 Ridgewood Avenue
 Charlotte, NC 28209

In Memory

John T. Allred
Beverly Armstrong
Jeanette Davis
Alan Cooper Dell
Sarah Bryan Glascock
John L. Hallett
Ann Garrison Sellers
Howard P. Steiger
Beverly G. Welch
James J. White

In Honor

Listening Lizard Daylillies
Ann Armstrong
Susie Cochran
Mrs. John Espy
Caroline Gray
Myron Greer
Barbara Hiestand
Pat Linton
Carol Joyner
Kay Norris
Ted Shonts
Nursery Volunteers
Dorris Chapin Wells

In every neighborhood, all across our country, there are good people insisting on a good start for the young, and doing something about it.

Fred Rogers

ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL

garden hours: Tuesday 2 pm - 5 pm Wednesday 10 am - 12 noon Saturday 10 am - 5 pm



Winghaven Gardens, Inc.
248 Ridgewood Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28209
704.331.0664
winghavengardens.com



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
CHARLOTTE, NC
PERMIT NO. 2410

Spring Classes

Lavender Morning Workshop *with Cathy Tolman*

Saturday, May 22, 10 am to 12 noon

Cost: \$30 (non-members \$35)

Spend a pleasant and creative morning using locally grown organic lavender to make lavender wands and simple lavender sachets. Lavender wands require lots of fresh lavender and a fair amount of patience and dexterity, but will reward you with unusual ribbon-woven treasures for gifts or linen closets that will last for years. Sachets, made from bits of leftover fabric, ribbon and dried lavender, will scent your drawers, luggage or closets with a classic relaxing fragrance. As we create, we will enjoy herbal treats and explore lavender's current popularity as a culinary herb. All materials to make at least one lavender wand and several sachets are included. (Register early... Enrollment limited to 8 people)

Cathy Tolman first learned about herbs through a Wing Haven program 25 years ago, and is the founder and past president of the Charlotte Herb Guild.

Elizabeth Lawrence: Gardener, Writer, Friend, and Neighbor

A Celebration of a Life Well Lived *with Emily Wilson*

Tuesday, May 25, 10 am in the Education Building

Cost: \$10 (non-members \$15)

Emily will take us on a story walk along Elizabeth's garden path in Raleigh in the 1930s and 40s that led to the making of her first book, A Southern Garden, and to the making of a life that she continued for the next three decades on Ridgewood Avenue in Charlotte. Based on a book of letters to a friend, Becoming Elizabeth Lawrence: Discovered Letters of A Southern Gardener, Emily completes the portraiture of Elizabeth that she began with a biography (No One Gardens Alone) and an earlier collection of letters (Two Gardeners/Katharine S. White and Elizabeth Lawrence: A Friendship in Letters).

The New York Times called Emily Herring Wilson's Two Gardeners: Katharine S. White & Elizabeth Lawrence - A Friendship in Letters "one of the finest gardening books published in years." Wilson, who lives in Winston-Salem, is also the author of the Lawrence biography No One Gardens Alone.

A reception and conversation will follow at the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden.

.....
To register, please mail this portion to Wing Haven at 248 Ridgewood Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28209.

Lavender Morning Workshop (\$30 /\$35)

Elizabeth Lawrence: Gardener, Writer, Friend and Neighbor (\$10/\$15)

Total fees: _____

Please charge my Visa or MasterCard

Account # _____ expires _____

Check enclosed

Name _____ phone _____

Address _____

Email _____