

Faerie Garden 2013

Faeries are carefree little spirits who delight in nature's splendor. The original garden plan at the home included a Faerie Garden. It was envisioned as a peaceful yet fun and whimsical spot to be enjoyed by the children who visit.

In 2006 AmeriCorp helped us dig out an area just above the water area in the canyon for the Faerie Garden. The location was on a steep rocky slope east of the main garden area. They lined it with large boulders and cleared all the weeds. In 2007 they returned and helped our crew terrace the garden. Nancy Palmer and Marcia Lamkin assumed design and care for the garden. Large pavers and rod iron insect figures were used to make a pathway down into the garden. Rock was added to line the entry. Some purchases and garden transplants were added to begin to get plants to grow around the walkway pavers and at the entry. Plants used were miniatures or with small flowers. A twinflower honeysuckle was added to the entry. Jean Hockman donated many plants (mostly succulents) to begin to line the terracing. Each summer pots with small flowers (annuals) are added to this garden. Dana Prom Smith gave us some of his black gold (compost) to get things started. A large angel was purchased from our garden funds at Warner's to welcome people to the garden along with a coy fish ground birdbath. Marcia Lamkin added a small bench. Nancy and Marcia began to add small touches to the garden to entice the children into this space. See below (hardscape) some of the many items that were added over the years. The art work was often small and hidden so as to delight the visitor with new discoveries. Things are often rearranged by those who visit. A scavenger hunt for children was added and placed in a standing box near the garden. Prizes are available in the house for anyone completing the game. A bentwood bench was on our wish list for several years and was finally purchased by a residents family and shipped from Ohio. Several trees (mostly elm) have been removed over the years to open up the canopy and for safety. The garden was vandalized several times by people and many local animals, but it continues to thrive. In 2012 a large pot was added at the entry with a miniature faerie garden along with a solar light for the entry. Each spring all the hardscape items are brought out of storage to the delight of the gardeners and all our visitors, especially the young at heart.

Plant list:

Alpine cinquefoil (*Potentilla neumanniana* 'Nana')
Bellflower (*Campanula* 'Birch Hybrid')
Blue Spruce Stonecrop
Columbine (*Aquilegia* 'Swallowtail' & 'Clematis-flowered' & 'Leprechaun Gold')
Coral Bells (*Heuchera* 'Purple Palace, 'Spruce Green')
Creeping Jenny
Creeping Speedwell (*Veronica repens*)
Creeping Stonecrop (*Sedum* 'John Creech')
Creeping Thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*)
Cutleaf Alpine fleabane (*Erigeron compositus* var. *discoldeus*)
Dianthus (variety)
Digitalis 'Pam's Choice'
Dwarf Bellflower (*Campanula* 'Birch Hybrid')
Dwarf Bugleweed (*Ajuga* 'Chocolate Chip')
Fendler's Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum fendleri*)
Groundcover Roses (*Rosa Carambia* & *Rosa Brulee*)
Hosta or Plantain Lily (variety)
Irish Moss (*Sagina subulata*)
Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)
Mexican Evening Primrose 'Siskiyou'
Mongolian Stonecrop
Mother of thyme (*thymus serpyllum* 'Coccineum')
Penstemons (Mat & Pine)
Pink Pussy-toes (*Antennaria dioica* 'Rubra')

Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum*)
Rock Campion (*Silene multiflora* 'Druett's Variegated') (2010)
Roger's Plant (*Rodgersia aesculifolia*)
Scotch Moss (*Sagina* 'Aurea')
Sedum (variety donated by Jean Hockman)
Snowdrops Anemone (*Anemone sylvestris*)
Stonecrop (*Sedum ewersii* 'Pink Mongolian')
Sun Rose (*Helianthus* 'Wisley Primrose' & 'Annabel')
Sweet Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*)
Thyme (*Thymus serpyllum* 'Elfin')
Twisted Arrow Grass (*Juncus*)
Variegated Clover
White Nancy (*Lamium maculatum*)
Wooly Thyme
Annual color pots are added throughout the garden each year.

Shrubs:

Twinberry Honeysuckle (entry)

Trees:

Navajo Willow (added at back east side of garden)
Ponderosa Pine (existing)
Siberian Elm (existing)

Hardscape:

Angel statues (small & large)
Angel birdfeeder
Bentwood chair with cushion
Cement bench
Ceramic Mushroom Bells
Coy birdbath
Faerie door
Faerie house
Faerie rod iron stakes
Faerie wind chime
Flying pig watering can
Frog birdhouse, shoe, sitting on a toadstool, lying on it's side, pot marker, & 2 ceramic & cloth frogs.
Insect pavers & rod iron path pieces
Ladybug
Leaf birdbath
Log with frogs
Solar frog light
Tree face with 2 left feet
Tree stumps for sitting
Turtle banner

Award:

Arizona Native Plant Society – 2008 – Most Imaginative Garden