

Apricot trees should feel at home

At this date the "natives" are showing signs of restlessness and at gatherings you are hearing of negotiations for warmer climates. "We" are expecting these restless souls to return with new home and garden ideas.

The "in thing" is still the oriental garden and southward there are the following oriental gardens to visit. Birmingham, Ala. has a garden at 2510 Lane Park Drive. The Port Worth Botanic Garden has its oriental garden to show off.

In the Memphis, Tenn., and Norfolk, Va., Botanical Gardens there is oriental influence.

WHEN YOU VISIT an oriental garden you notice it isn't so much the size as what is expressed. Many small homes and condos have small enclosed gardens to the rear of the living room or dining room. A true oriental garden never appears cluttered. Just a very few shrubs, a water feature, a piece of sculpture or a water basin is appropriate.

A path of pebbles (controlled against weed maintenance by hidden plastic under the pebbles) can lead away from the structure. The feeling of privacy is very important.

The azalea is an important flowering shrub in the oriental garden but don't think you have to have something in flower all of the time. If you do that you get back to our American-styled garden.

Pruning and shearing are very important to keep control over the planting. You can do interesting pruning



down to earth Alice Burlingame

with pines and pines. You could create your own lantern with a careful placement of stones, lighted inside.

HUMMOCKS are often created to indicate a change in elevation. Irish moss (sagina) is good to use with its minute texture but remember it needs moisture — lots of sprinkling. You could have a water basin which would probably end up being used by birds. Just don't forget that pruning is very important.

You really should have to go to the library and take out an Oriental-design book to guide the pruner because it's important to take out secondary branches to resemble wind action, etc.

If you get to Sarasota this year be sure and go to the Selby Botanical Gardens which is right on the waterfront. What a place. They have a scientific staff (Dr. Russell Siebert, emeritus director of Longwood is there). Their gardens are a package of beauty and you can secure a large supply of cuttings for indoor gardening.

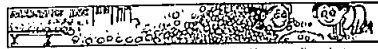
BY THE WAY, as your thoughts return to your back forty, if you have room, consider planting two apricot trees. Or if you have a neighbor who

will plant one near your lot line you can get cross pollinating which is necessary for apricot trees.

The reason I am pushing apricot trees is because they are not only beautiful in flower and fruit but they are the richest of all fruits in vitamin A. They are less prone to pests than any other fruit tree. They need good drain-

age and air flow, so don't squeeze them into a corner. Hilltop Nursery, Hartford, Ct., 46057, carries "Golden" which was developed by the Michigan State Experimental Station which ought to like our weather.

Kelly Brothers, Danville, N.Y., has developed a blue-black grape without seeds. The grape is called Glenora (\$5.25 per) plus mailing. It will take the northeast weather of New York state.



A marble factory can turn out 1000 glass marbles every five minutes.

Loyalty urged

The Daughters of the American Revolution urge all Americans to display their loyalty and patriotism by serving their country in any way possible. They urge everyone to observe February as American History Month, and remember the many famous Americans born in February.



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CREATE A ROMANTIC DINNER FOR TWO
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\$6 fee, by reservation only, phone 569-6272.
Monday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.

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Monday, February 21, 6:30 p.m.

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HEARTY SOUPS AND WINTER BUFFETS
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Tuesday, February 22, 9:30 a.m.

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Wednesdays, February 23, March 2, 9 and 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

SPRING FASHION UPDATE
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SNEAK PREVIEW OF NORTHLAND'S MARCH EVENTS:
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