

Garden clubs have a lot to offer

This is an interesting cycle for dedicated gardeners because they daydream about a lovely garden and start to plan. There is plenty of time to change ideas two or three times prior to the planting date to assure a fine new detail in the garden.

Your library will have many of the newest books to stimulate your thinking. In the past I have pointed

out to you that the current design idea seems to be to create an island of beauty not too far from the home structure and a free-form pattern reinforces the new, current style.

Here are a couple of suggestions to keep in mind. About a quarter of the way into one end of the proposed island of beauty, plant an exotic evergreen or small flowering tree.

Now, at the far end of the pattern you will want to place a low, spreading evergreen (if the site is shady you should select an evergreen of the Taxus category).

You can accept the challenge of either having low-growing flowering plants along the edge or groupings of annuals in a pattern that extend toward the center of the bed. Do not

overlook planting perennials where needed to fill the gaps in the center.

Be on the lookout for an interesting boulder which could be placed at the opposite end of the planted evergreen or tree to give weight to the composition.

Of course, if you secure an interesting piece of sculpture place it instead of the boulder to give charac-



down to earth

Alice Burlingame

ter to your 1987 design.

As a homeowner you will welcome this idea of having an island of beauty near your rear patio or deck, but remember it must have a good size carpet of grass to enrich the total effort. If the site is too far from the house, you have missed the point of having an exotic island for guests to praise.

Nobody needs to be dull in a garden club. This is a good time of year to investigate the possibility of joining such an organization. If you have moved in from here out of town, make an inquiry about a local garden club. You will find these "live-wire" members are interested in civic planning, resources for supplying your garden needs and how to have prosperous-looking households. The club may study fluorescent light and

its many uses to provide a new outlet for a personal education.

From garden club programs you may learn how to prune the plants around your home.

Garden clubs often provide lessons in flower arranging. There is always a member of the club who knows how to multiply plants, for indoor and outdoor reproduction. Ways to use bulbs for winter and summer use may be discussed. A desire for plant containers will start you looking through your inventory. Garden club members have credentials for visiting interesting local gardens.

You may learn about preserving vegetables -- in other words get on the bandwagon. If you enjoy gardening, there are other people just like you looking for a friend.

Competition winner to sing at concert

The Pontiac-Oakland Symphony will present its "Young Artist Concert" at 7 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22 in Varner Hall on the Oakland University campus.

The concert will feature baritone, Scott Jusilla winner of the Oakland University 1986 Concerto Competition. Dr. David Daniels will conduct. Selections will include, Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2, Ravel's Bolero and Schubert's Symphony No. 4, "The Great" Washington's Birthday, and selected arias from Mozart's "The Magic Flute," and "The Marriage of Figaro."

Jusilla is a candidate for a bachelor of music in voice performance at Oakland University where he is a student of John Paul White. In 1985, Jusilla was a semi-finalist in the WQRS Quest for Excellence Competition and a winner of the Central Michigan University's Concerto Contest.

At the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition in 1984, he was awarded second place in the state competition and first place in the regionals. He is a member of the Oakland University Choral Collegium and has appeared in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "The Magic Flute," "The Pirates of Penzance," "Carousell" and "The Merry Widow." He has studied with Eddy Ameling and Walter Berry at the International Institute for Chamber Music in Munich, Germany. He's from Bridgeport.

The Oakland University

sity Concerto Competition was started in 1974, by Jim Dawson, director of band at the university. Students compete in one of three categories, orchestral instrument, piano, or voice. This year's judges were Marjorie Gordon, director of the Piccolo Opera Company, Mary Scellano, piano teacher for the Institute of Music and Dance in

Detroit and Ann Elliott of the Lafayette String Quartet.

Tickets, \$8 each or \$3 for students and senior citizens, are available

from the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony office at 35 East Huron, Pontiac, MI 48054, or at the door. For reservations, call 334-6024.

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