



# Alden Lane Nursery Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2010

Serving You Since 1955

981 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA • [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com) • (925) 447-0280



## Quilting in the Garden – 2010

Presented by Alden Lane Nursery & In Between Stitches

September 25 & 26, 2010 for the 13th Annual Event

Quilting in the Garden is held each September at Alden Lane Nursery. This year we are pleased to be displaying the work of artists, Sue Nickels, Denise Sheehan and Elizabeth Scott, all hanging from the majestic Oaks at Alden Lane. The quilt show in the nursery is free and the lecture series will have a nominal charge featuring Sue Nickels, Alex Anderson, Denise Sheehan, Sandra Mollon and Tracy Souza.

The show, held on September 25th and 26th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will include a workshop series starting on Thursday, September 23rd. We do have an **open call out for quilts**, and we'd love to have more quilts to hang, sign up by using the form on our website.

For more information on **Quilting in the Garden 2010** see inside this newsletter and visit our website at [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com).

## Announcements

We will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 6th for parking lot repairs; re-opening Tuesday, Sept. 7th at 8:30 am

- **Watch the Valley Gardener** on TV30 for great gardening tips with host Jacquie Williams-Courtright at 7:30 am and 1:30 p.m. Monday - Friday and repeated on Saturday at 7:30 am, 11:00 am, and 4:00 pm & Sunday at 7:30 am, 11 am, 1 pm & 4 pm, or catch her on TV30.org.
- **The Mt. Diablo Rose Society** meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Dublin Civic Center.
- **The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** will meet Thursday, September 9, 2010. Guests are welcome. For more information please call Lydia at 461-1725.
- **Sign Up for the E-Newsletter.** Take 30 seconds and sign up today for our email version of the newsletter. Go to [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com) and follow the prompts.
- **Bonsai Club** meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month – 2 p.m. at Alden Lane Nursery. Come one, come all!
- **Attention Rose Lovers!** The annual rose show will be held the weekend of October 9 & 10 at Alden Lane Nursery. All are welcome and encouraged to enter and share their lovely roses. Mark your calendars for this fun and informative event. See inside for details.
- **Bulb Planting Workshop,** Saturday & Sunday, September 25th & 26th. Drop in between 11:00 and 3:00 to plant up a pot of bulbs. Bring a pot or select one here. We will help you pick an assortment of bulbs, layer them with potting soil, and top them off with annual color. Price depends on quantities and variety. **Service is free, soil is free.**

## “Behind the Curtain”

with Nicholas Staddon

Director of New Plant Introductions  
from Monrovia Growers

Thursday, September 2nd • 6 p.m.

Make your reservations for this **FREE** event by calling 925-447-0280.

Join Nicholas for a unique and highly visible look behind closed doors at Monrovia. Meet some of the professional plant explorers he works with, learn about cutting, edge propagation, and discover new trends in plants for your garden paradise!

Nicholas scours the globe for new creations and discoveries in the plant world.



**FREE PLANT RAFFLE!!**



## Don't Forget Autumn Flowers

*If you haven't made plans to perk up your summer flowerbeds do so today. Alden Lane Nursery has a full range of annuals that bridge the seasons. Some of the fall line up includes pansies, violas, nemesia, stock and linaria, snapdragons, Iceland poppies, primrose and alyssum. Use our **Recipe For Good Garden Soil** to get them off to the very best start.*

### Plant Black Eyed Susan for a Wonderful Touch of Autumn in the Garden

Although we all know the chrysanthemum as one of the outstanding beauties of the autumn garden there's another glorious plant that should also have top billing – Rudbeckia



or Black Eyed Susan will fire up the garden with a burst of warmth. This perennial has an upright growth pattern to three feet. The flowers bloom from mid summer through fall with a color range from warm yellows to browns and coppery tones capped with dark brown or black centers (hence the name Black Eyed Susan).

Prepare the soil with **Master Nurserymen's Gold Rush** as Rudbeckia like well draining soil. Remove fading flower heads to extend the flowering season. Use snail bait on a weekly basis to keep this pest and slugs away from the foliage. Avoid over

watering to keep powdery mildew at bay.

Rudbeckia make an excellent cut flower just immerse the stems in boiling water for 30 seconds before adding them to your floral arrangements. Alden Lane has a great selection of varieties to choose from.

### Colorful Chrysanthemums Mean Fall Has Arrived!

If there is one flower that really let's us know it's autumn – it's the Chrysanthemum! Richly colored and aromatic, the chrysanthemum comes in a dazzling array of colors. Choose from white, orange, yellow, bronze, maroon, butterscotch and pink. There are low growing "cushion" or "button" types which form low, bushy plants covered with color as well as "spider" mums and the larger flowering exhibition varieties which need frequent pinching until midsummer to encourage full, stocky plants and large blooms. Remember to remove dead flower heads to force more flower production. Don't overhead water because this encourages blossom rot.



## Office Attire



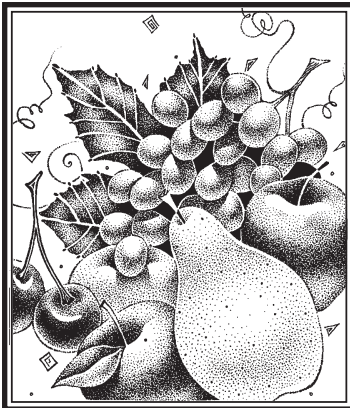
You've heard the term "dress for success" to present a professional image, and that is certainly true of your office space as well. Plants can lend that touch of class and ambiance, and also soften those hard edges of necessary office furniture to complete your professional look. Additionally, they play a significant part in a healthy office environment by cleaning up the air and adding healthful humidity to your workspace.

Having said all that – choosing the right plants that will flourish for you is sometimes a challenge. Nothing looks worse than a struggling plant when the rest of your office speaks volumes about your successful attitude.

We would love to help you choose the kind of plants that would **thrive** in your special environment, which includes light exposure, size, color scheme, watering issues and containers that would fit in with your decor. You spend a lot of time in your office – truly give it a "breath of fresh air" by bringing in the right plants for you space. Our interior plantscape professional, Sue, is on staff to help you find the perfect "office mates" to dress up your world. Call her at 925-447-0280 today to set up time to meet, or just drop in for a free consultation.

# Notes for September Gardening

- ♪ **Our fall planted, spring blooming bulbs** are arriving everyday. Plant ranunculus and anemones as soon as you can get them in the ground. The same applies for Bearded Iris.
- ♪ Fall is a great time to refresh the soil in your vegetable garden especially if you are planting a winter garden. **Bumper Crop, Gold Rush or Paydirt** will replenish the fertility of your soil as well as enhance the texture. Bumper Crop and Gold Rush include 15% chicken manure, Paydirt 25%. See our *Recipe for Good Garden Soil* in this issue.
- ♪ September is a wonderful month to get a start on **winter vegetables and flowers**. The earlier you set out your cool crops, the better. Cabbage and broccoli will grow especially large if started now. Lettuces are another good choice, plant carrots or radishes from seed.
- ♪ **Chrysanthemums** just say "fall"! We have many wonderful colors to choose from. Use in the garden, for pots and for seasonal indoor decorating.
- ♪ This is the month to apply **pre-emergent weed control** to prevent one of Spring's toughest lawn weeds. If you have Oxalis, (small clover like leaves with a yellow flower) your lawn has already been seeded for next year's crop. Thousands of the microscopic seeds have been distributed after the spring and summer flower season. This also prevents the pesky annual bluegrass by applying **Master Nursery Pre-emergent Weed Preventer and Lawn Food**.
- ♪ Feed your fruit trees one last time until March for increased vigor in the spring. Use **Master's Fruit and Vine Food**.
- ♪ **Sow flower seeds**. Many wildflowers and spring annuals grow from seeds scattered now. Try California Poppy, Bachelor Button, and Alyssum. Freshen flowerbeds with new plantings of annuals. Choose pansies, violas, calendulas, snapdragons, stock and more.
- ♪ **Revitalize your lawn now** with these easy steps: thatch, aerate, add Iron Sulfate, Gypsum, Master Start Fertilizer and topdress with Gold Rush or Paydirt, water in with **GroMore's E-Z Wet**. It's also a great month to plant a brand new lawn.
- ♪ Attend to acid loving plants such as camellias and azaleas now. Feed them this month with **Master's Rhododendron, Azalea and Camellia Food**. In October start feeding with **Master Bloom 0-10-10 Fertilizer** monthly through March.
- ♪ **Bring in houseplants** that have summered outdoors before the nights get too cool. Wash them off thoroughly with warm water and check for hitchhiking pests.
- ♪ Fall is a great time to plant **old-fashioned favorites** such as hollyhock, canterbury bells, and foxgloves. Planting them now will insure a beautiful spring.



## ATTENTION ALL BACKYARD FRUIT LOVERS!!

September has arrived and that means we have cycled through all the topics in the backyard orchard seminar from Apples to Walnuts; pruning to harvesting; and of course now it's time to enjoy. This month, along with our regular topic we will be trying out a few recipes with fresh

fruit and exchanging ideas on the many ways to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Bring your appetite and your recipes to share.

Our topic on **September 18th from 11 a.m. to Noon is "Olives, Figs, & Pruning Mature Trees"**. These things seem to go together as many tri-valley homes today come with an old fig or fruiting olive that need some work, and with some know-how, you can get these old messy monsters down to size and still get great fruit. We'll also go over different fig and olive varieties, training and pruning of young trees, and harvesting.

Look for the new Backyard Orchard Seminar schedule of classes in next month's newsletter! All classes are to run from 11 - 12 o'clock with extra time for Q & A and will **cost \$5 (bring a friend for Free!)**. Call ahead to reserve a set.

## Exotic & Practical Kiwi is a Great Addition to the Garden

Although thought of as an exotic or even tropical fruit, Kiwis can be easily grown in our climate. The large leaves of this vigorous vine are quite ornamental, and look great trained on a trellis or arbor. Male and female plants can be grown together or separately, but both must be present for the female plant to bear fruit. Kiwis can be very large woody vines or can be controlled by winter dormant pruning making it an ideal edible replacement for wisteria or climbing roses trained on large structures or fences. Alden Lane is currently offering a selection of both male and female Kiwis ideal for fall planting. Give them regular water to develop an extensive root system, and once established these hardy vines will need little care while providing loads of tasty fruit.



# Quilting in the Garden – 2010

September 25th & 26th • 9:00 - 4:00

## Featured Artists

**Sue Nickels:** Sue is a professional quilter who has been teaching machine techniques for over 20 years. She is recognized nationally and internationally as a teacher and lecturer. Collaboration with her sister; Pat Holly has resulted in many major award winning quilts including “The Beetles Quilt”. While teaching Sue emphasizes the best quality workmanship, never compromising quality for speed. Want to know more? Visit [sue-nickels.com](http://sue-nickels.com).

**Denise Sheehan:** *A Graceful Stitch*  
A passionate quilter, known for her appliqué work, Denise started the company “A Graceful Stitch” in 2006 and is excited to share her love of quilting and her quilts. Visit [agracefulstitch.com](http://agracefulstitch.com).

**Elizabeth Scott:** *Late Bloomer Quilts*  
Elizabeth made her first quilt in 1980. Elizabeth is drawn to soft vintage designs and garden themes. Perfect for Quilting in the Garden! Take a sneak peek at her work at [latebloomerquilts.com](http://latebloomerquilts.com).

**Alex Anderson:** *Author, Fabric & Quilt Designer*  
Meet the co-host of the internet show “The Quilt Show” with Ricky Tims, [www.thequiltshow.com](http://www.thequiltshow.com).

## Classes

*Don't delay in registering for these inspirational classes. Class size is limited and will fill up quickly! Visit [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com), call 925.447.0280 for class availability and descriptions. Supply list for classes will be mailed with confirmation and tickets.*

## Meet The Artist Tours

Spend an hour with your favorite featured artist. See her newest fabrics, books and tour the special quilts she brought with her. \$12.

- Sue Nickels:** Saturday 11-12 pm or Sunday 1-2 pm
- Elizabeth Scott:** Saturday 1-2 pm
- Denise Sheehan:** Sunday 12-1 pm



*New this year* is a 2010 Quilting in the Garden Tee shirt, \$19.95 available in S, M, L, XL, XXL  
**Get yours today! DON'T MISS OUT!**

# From The Gift Shop!

It's quilt show time! To celebrate the quilt show we have assembled many gift items that feature fabric and textures. The multi colored fall fabric pumpkins with sewn on buttons are sure to delight the sense of touch. To compliment the larger pumpkin we have small felt pumpkins, and many other fall items made from assorted fabrics. A new line this year includes gourds carved into the shape of pumpkins. There are several sizes to suit any home.



For the quilter, seamstress, or hobbyist we have adorable woven pouches and larger totes made from colorful measuring tapes. To keep you in fashion we have measuring tape bracelets, and button change purses to add to the fun.

During quilt show we will feature Nancy Clause, a fabulous children's author, who writes stories about Santa's adventures. She will be here signing her books at the Quilt Show on September 25 and 26 from 9-4. If you would like to learn more about her books please visit [www.MrsClausSays.com](http://www.MrsClausSays.com). We also have a display copy for review in the store.



# Fall is California's Second Spring ... Plant Now!

Fall is in the air. The sun is lower in the sky. Temperatures are moderating. There still remain 2 to 2½ months before winter rains arrive and temperatures drop significantly. In northern California we are blessed with a second spring and this weather is perfect for planting.

You are home now, school has started and the summer vacations are behind you. The harshest heat of summer has passed. It really is a good time to put down some roots. A tree shrub or perennial planted now will establish quickly with the nice warm soil. Winter rains will soon take over the watering chores and next spring, a plant that established its roots this fall will be significantly larger than if planted later. Fall is an active growing time. Take advantage of it by doing some gardening or landscaping now.

## Plant Sweet Peas this Fall for Glorious Fragrant Bouquets in Spring

September and October are sweet pea planting months for us here in the mild-winter west. We have a great selection of sweet peas to choose from including the earliest bloomers and the very popular Old Fashioned varieties. Old Fashioned sweet peas are particularly fragrant.

Sweet peas planted now, in a manure-rich soil, will sprout and establish themselves well before winter cool temperatures arrive. The earliest ones can actually bloom as soon as January as they require just 10 hours of sunlight per day to set buds. The later varieties will be nice large plants by the time early spring arrives and will set a profusion of blooms. Sweet

peas are beautiful and fragrant and they make great cut flowers. Choose from dozens of varieties including a number of mixes.



## Bearded Iris Are Here!

Plant Bearded Iris now to spread a surprisingly vibrant splash of color through the garden this coming spring. Available in saltwater taffy colors, this old fashioned favorite is a great addition to any garden. For the greatest impact, plant several corms of the same color/variety -together. You will be stunned with the results. Lighten the soil with Master's Planting Mix and enrich with Master's Bulb Food.

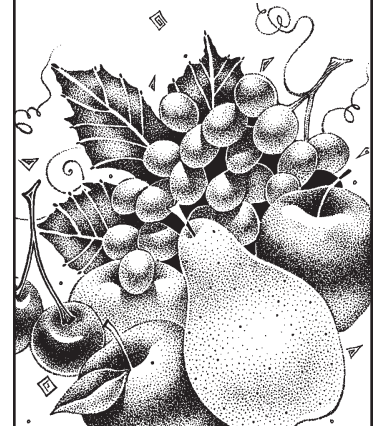
## Fall Bulbs Especially For California

September is bulb planting time. Check out the new arrivals that include: anemone, ranunculus, watsonia and sparaxis. These bulbs thrive in our Mediterranean climate. New varieties will arrive throughout the month. Familiarize yourself with these wonderful bulbs that are beautiful as well as appropriate for our climate. Plant handfuls in drifts now for spring rewards with a lasting effect.



## Book Early and Get Great Deals!

Take advantage of our advance **FRUIT TREE SALE**. You can pre-book & pre-pay for your fruit trees from now until November 12th and get a **20% Discount** off our 2011 fruit tree prices. Come in a pick up a 2011 Price List and Order Form to select the varieties you've been longing to add to your back yard orchard. The list and order form are available online too at [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com).



## Preview for Fall Festival, Fall Festival coming in October!

Mark your calendars for our **Fabulous Fall Festival on October 9th & 10th, 16th & 17th, 23rd & 24th**. *The PONIES are BACK!* We have ponies coming for the first weekend of our Fall Festival!! October 9 & 10th, \$6.00 per ride, ponies are hand-led through the nursery.

**Owls are coming October 16th**, sign up today, reservations by October 10th are required for us to keep the show open. Check with our cashiers. See inside for more details.

The Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can participate in scarecrow building, games; enjoy tasty food, farmer's market, pumpkins and much more. See you there!



## It's A Fall Fun Kid's Tour!

It's an hour of pure fun for your kids. They'll take a guided tour through the Walnut Hulling barn, go apple fishing, learn about owls and their special role at the farm, visit the pumpkin patch to choose the perfect Jack O' Lantern and get a goodie bag - all for \$9 per child. Minimum group size is 15, maximum is 25. Call to reserve a spot early as this books up quickly. Available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays in October between 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Ask for Cyndee to book.



# It's Time to Salsa!!

## Join Us For The 3rd Annual Tomato, Pepper & Salsa Party

**September 18 & 19th**  
**1:00 - 3:00 p.m. each day**

Our party will feature Salsa music, chips for dipping, and the optional sombrero. We'll provide dozens of tomatoes to tantalize your taste buds, you'll fall in love with all the flavors!

We want to taste what you've done with your homegrown tomatoes, and reward you for your efforts! Bring in a quart of your homemade salsa and compete for high honors as **"Top Rojo with the Mojo"**. Your salsa will be judged by Alden Lane's Salsa Lovers. Criteria will be: the use of spices, flavor complexity, and all around good taste.

### TOP WINNER brings home:

- ☆ A \$100.00 Alden Lane Gift Certificate to start your next salsa garden
- ☆ Your name on the perpetual Salsa trophy and
- ☆ Your recipe and picture will be posted on the nursery website. ***Fame and fortune will follow you always.***

### SECOND PLACE WINNER:

- ☆ Will receive a \$35.00 gift certificate for Alden Lane Nursery

### THIRD PLACE:

- ☆ A \$25.00 gift certificate for Alden Lane Nursery

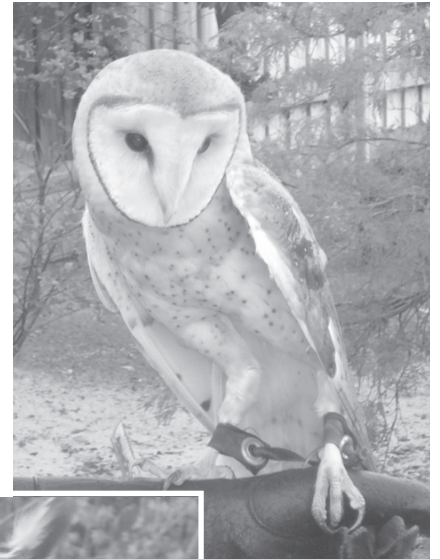
\*\*Homemade salsa must be at Alden Lane Nursery by **12:30 on Saturday, September 18th**. Winners will be announced on **Sunday, September 19th** at 3:00 p.m. We hope you'll come and join us for this fun and festive event.

# WHOOO... WHOOO.... LEARN ABOUT OWLS!

Join us for a fundraiser  
for "Native Bird Connection".  
The Owl Event will be held on **Saturday,**  
**October 16th from 3 - 5 p.m.**

The donation  
fee is **\$12.00**  
- with kids  
under 12  
**FREE!!**

*Sign up today.*  
*Reservations*  
*required by*  
*October 10th*  
*to keep the*  
*show open!*



Native Bird  
volunteers will  
bring different  
types of owls  
and provide  
a wonderful  
educational  
program on all  
the benefits of  
these beautiful  
nocturnal  
creatures.

## GOOD GARDEN SOIL!

For each 100 square feet add:

- 5 to 8- 2 cubic ft. bags **Master Gold Rush, Bumper Crop**®, or **Pay Dirt**
- 5 lbs. **Iron Sulfate** to acidify and add iron.
- 10 lbs. **Master Vegetable Food** or **Master Flower Food, Master Formula 49** can be used for ground covers.
- 50 lbs. **Gypsum**. It loosens hard soils as it adds sulfur & calcium. (An excellent addition in our heavy soil.)

Mix well with your soil to an 8" depth and water well.

## Recipe for Good Garden Soil! GOOD GARDEN SOIL STARTS HERE!!

If you are preparing a vegetable or flower garden bed here's a tried and true soil preparation recipe that works wonders. It lightens our heavy soil, nourishes it and buffers the pH to make it 'just right' for the success of your vegetable and flower seeds or transplants.

# Win 3 Months of Lawn Care Products

This month you have an opportunity to win a three month lawn care program.  
You'll have the greenest lawn on the block!

Early October:

- **Master's Lawn Food & Weed Preventer**

November:

- **Master Green**

December:

- **Master's Fall & Winterfeed**

A \$50.00 Value

No purchase necessary. No need to be present to win! Drawing to be held September 30, 2010.

LAWN

September 2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to receive the newsletter online.

## Come & Enjoy Our 17th Annual Fall Rose Show

Saturday, October 9th, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 10th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. • Awards given out at 3:00 p.m.

Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore • (925) 447-0280  
Co-sponsored by the Mt. Diablo Rose Society and Alden Lane Nursery

**Public Entries Welcome!**

Roses can be entered on Saturday, October 9th from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**HINT:** Cut the stems long. We can shorten them up when you arrive.

Be prepared to delight in the sights and fragrance of hundreds of beautiful roses. Bring your note pad so you can jot down those varieties you can't live without. And, don't forget, you can pre-order your favorites and enjoy a **20% Discount** through the middle of December. **See you there!**

### Rose Show Special!

We'd like to inspire you to bring roses in from your garden, so anyone bringing a cut rose to display in our Annual Rose Show will receive a coupon good for **\$5.00 OFF** the price of ANY plant in the nursery of a \$10 value or more! **Must redeem coupon by November 30, 2010.** Cut roses must be entered on October 9th by 10:00 a.m.



### 2011 Rose Pre-Order Program

This is the month to drop by the nursery and pick up your 2011 Rose List. Pre-orders are now being taken thru December 15th for the 2011 season and will be given a **20% DISCOUNT** when you order. There are lots of new and exciting roses to pick from including an AARS winner. Pre-ordered roses will be available for pick-up in late December.

### New from Week's Roses

AARS Winner: **'Dick Clark'** is a cream & pink grandiflora sure to rock your world! Others to look for are **'Colorific'** a blend of salmon peach and coral. This floribunda is a showstopper! **'White Licorice'** which is a floribunda with lemon cream flowers and a sweet licorice and lemon fragrance that will make you tingle with delight. **'Grande Dame'** a rose pink hybrid tea with big bountiful blooms with old rose romance, style and fragrance. **'Be My Baby'** is a miniature rose with shapely red buds that open to luminous rich pink blossoms. Beautiful! **'Purple Splash'** is a new climber with large wine purple flowers, striped with bright white clusters of blossoms and a sweet apple fragrance. **Yum! Yum!** These are just of few of our new rose selections for 2011. Come in for our list of all the roses that will be offered in 2011.

### New from Star Roses

**'Adobe Sunrise'** is a compact floribunda with large salmon-orange flowers, blooms continuously while self-cleaning, great for containers. **'Girls Night Out'** a dusky pink hybrid tea with a vigorous upright habit, above average disease resistance. **'Milwaukee's Calatrava'** is a very fragrant shrub rose with pure white double flowers, blooms continually from spring thru frost. **'Pink Flamingo'** is a beautiful grandiflora with an upright bushy habit, has large non-fading deep pink blooms, excellent winter hardiness and disease resistance. **'Silicon Valley Diamond'** is a true miniature with pearl white single petal blossoms which contrasts nicely with its dark green foliage. Always in bloom, perfect for containers and combination planters. **'Smiley Face'** is a true yellow climbing rose, excellent repeat bloomer, very resistant to mildew and rust.



981 Alden Lane  
Livermore, CA 94550  
(925) 447-0280

Change Service Requested

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Livermore, CA

**IMPORTANT!**  
Time Critical  
Please Deliver Promptly

**ALDEN LANE NURSERY HOURS:** Open every day until 6:00 p.m.  
\*\*\* **SHOP EARLY!** Alden Lane will be closed on **Labor Day Monday, September 6th** for parking lot repairs. We'll re-open on Tuesday September 7th at 8:30am \*\*\*

## SPECIAL COUPON

Present This Coupon & A Canned Food Item  
TO RECEIVE FREE

*Have you have been longing for that fountain, birdbath or specimen maple?  
This is a great way to save on that special garden accent.*



Food Donations are Optional. All donations go to local relief agencies. One coupon per family, please!  
Offer Good September 1-30, 2010.

## HOW TO FIND ALDEN LANE NURSERY

