

the ESTATE GARDENER

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Fall 2006

Crooked Trees, Broken Stumps



Crooked trees and broken stumps are often the legacy of mandates to preserve natural areas in new developments. None-the-less, images of an outdoor living room surrounded by woodland gardens, natural stone and falling water were already germinating in the client's imagination.

The challenge to make this site both suit the needs and fulfill the dreams of its owners involved maximizing the small space on a steep slope and enhancing the livability of the area. Through the use of interwoven man-made and natural materials, we were able to create a functional, inviting terrace that becomes the centerpiece of the view from the wall of windows above.

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Breuning Residence

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The client placed a high value on extending the home into the garden, creating a destination for living and entertaining. The soothing trickle and splash of ever-falling water provides nature's mood music for solitary reflection or a festive gathering of friends.

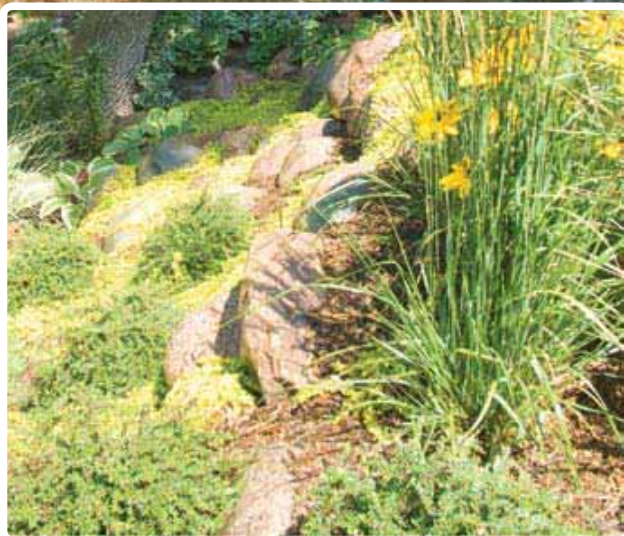
The backyard slopes away from the house, a natural waterfall would look contrived, so a more sculptural approach was used. Pedestaled bowls continuously overflow into a deep pool. Natural materials contradict the appearance of a retaining wall. The outcroppings of boulders and stone slabs transition from the manufactured pavers used in the patio into a shady woodland garden. They also provide the structural support for the living space above and the connection to the lower garden.

The lower garden beckons with cool shade and imaginative combinations of unusual plants and sculptural whimsies. The dry creek bed channels runoff and invites the exploration of the space. As sunlight moves across the scene, the interplay of form, color and texture reveals the intrinsic, nearly-wild character of this rearrangement of nature's bounty.

From every vantage point, the places the Breunings live are now intimately integrated. They are never visually separated from the sights and sounds of nature. The places they love to be are only steps away and now there is room to share it with their favorite people.



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GARDENER *profile:* Joe Smith



We love Joe. We couldn't believe our good fortune when we were able to hire such a fine horticulturist. His excitement about plants is exactly what we look for in a great gardener.

Joe fell in love with plants as a young teenager working in a garden center. He earned his

degree at UNL and went on to great heights in horticulture caring for the canopy of the Lied Jungle at the Henry Doorly Zoo. He also was responsible for grounds management at the Safari Park. It is safe to say that few gardeners in America have the exposure to as many plants in cultivation as does Joe, and he is on a first and

second name basis with all of them, including weeds. He is a walking encyclopedia of plant names and their uses.

Since Joe never saw a plant he didn't enjoy a personal relationship with, he has a great talent for combining them in gardens and containers for spectacular effect and successful results. His knowledge extends to the control and prevention of pests and diseases, balanced with his profound sensitivity to the environment.

Our Grounds Management clients have had a chance to get to know Joe this season, and we believe he has won them over with his talent for creating and cultivating beautiful gardens as well as his humble, easy-going way. Yes, we love Joe, and you would too, if he was your Estate Gardener.

A Letter from
Michael Becker, CLP
CEO, Estate Gardeners, Inc.

Gardener Profile
Joe Smith

Seasonal Tip
Year-Round Container
Beauty

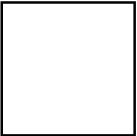
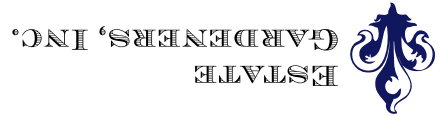
Property Profiles
Brenning Residence

What's inside:



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Michael Becker, CLP
CEO, Estate Gardeners, Inc.

A Letter from Michael Becker, CLP *Wow! is the Word*

A year and a half ago, Pat Burleson and I participated in a profoundly moving event in Washington DC, the "Renewal & Remembrance" national service project sponsored by The Professional Landcare Network (PLANET). One day each year, thousands of people from all walks of the landscape industry come from all over America to Arlington National Cemetery and Historic Congressional Cemetery. We perform tasks that include treating over 200 acres of lawn,

trimming and installing lightning protection in century-old oaks, and planting thousands of new landscape plants at the Visitor Center. I can only begin to describe how honored we are to have the opportunity to have a real impact on this most hallowed ground.

Our connection to Arlington runs deeper, as Pat's son Matthew did his first tour in the Army as a member of The Old Guard, and participated in the funerals of over 1200 of America's heroes.

This August, Pat accepted a position on a committee tasked with coordinating the acquisition and installation of the thousands of landscape plants donated annually to this amazing day of service. Pat, we are so proud of your commitment to this special day, and again I say *Wow*.

Seasonal Tip

Year-Round Container Beauty

We can expect a killing freeze in most Omaha area gardens around the second week of October. This will mark the end for summer flowering annuals in both containers and beds. Many of our clients use container gardens as accents in outdoor living areas. One of the most inviting and important locations for a stunning container display is at the entrance to your home or office.

Estate Gardeners, Inc. can create a spectacular seasonal display in your empty containers using dried, "silk" or other semi-permanent materials. Potted live evergreens such as spruce, arborvitae or juniper will last outdoors in a container all winter if watered and with the addition of lights create a warm, sparkling reception for guests. Artificial Christmas trees provide a reusable foundation for seasonal displays. Our designers can create year round beauty in your outdoor containers. Call early to ensure timely installation.