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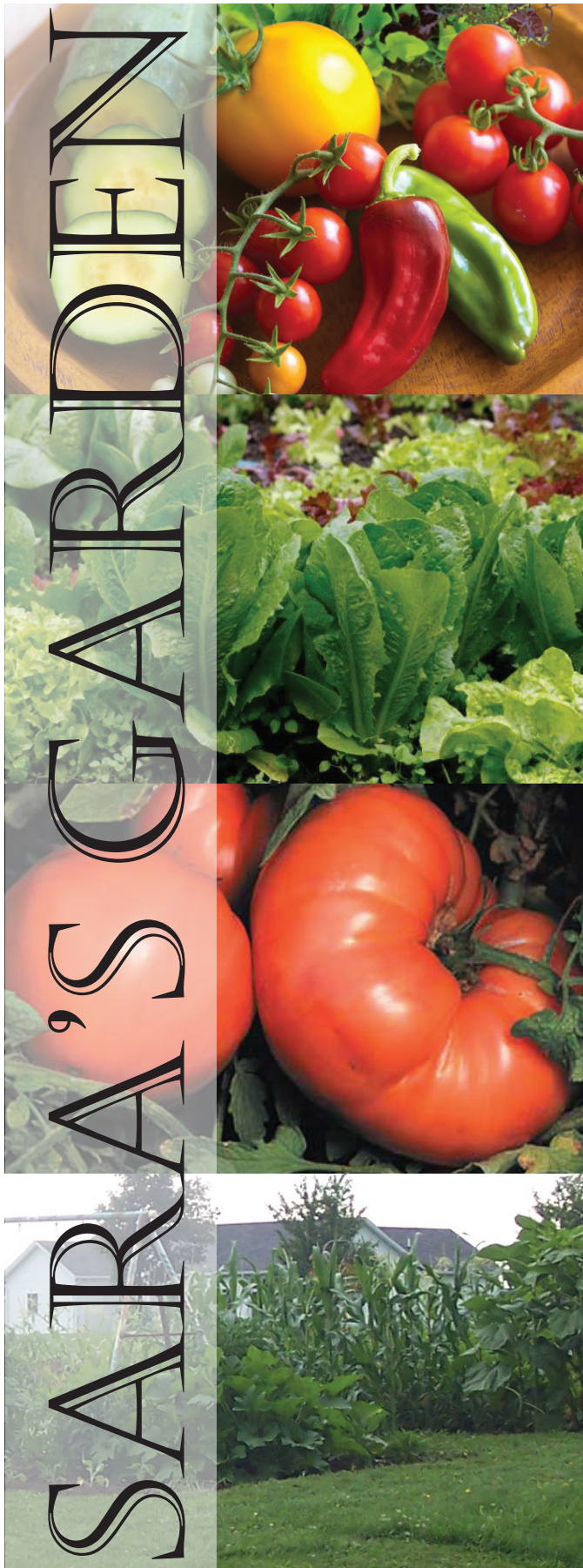
Journal



Coneflowers
New Garden Diary
Woodlot Wildflowers

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Volume Nineteen, Issue Three
May-June 2013



Good Clean Food

We all know the vegetable garden is continuing to surge as a priority when it comes to time and space spent gardening. We have fallen in love all over again with this concept and are anxious to help you attain your veggie garden goals. It's now our 4th season of the Community Garden at Sara's with 24 families currently utilizing veggie beds! These folks who have taken advantage of this service have excelled at adding delicious and healthy, homegrown, chemical-free food to their diet. Some have been gardening for years and some have never gardened before, but all have enjoyed their food garden from beginning to end.

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3. Soil counts: choose a free draining area and add compost!
4. Plan for maintenance: watering, weeding, and staking, are typical gardening tasks done on a regular basis.
5. Choose your crops wisely... it's not unheard of for a single tomato plant to produce 40 tomatoes in a one season.

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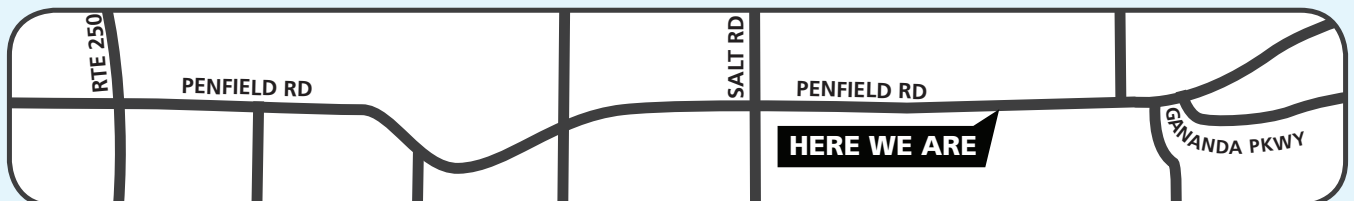


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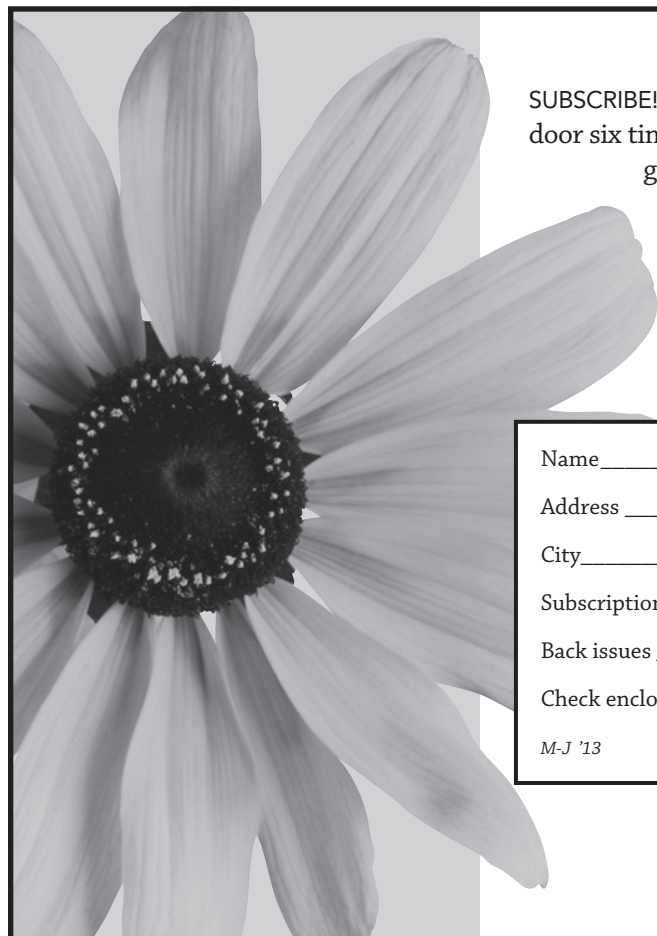
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M-J '13

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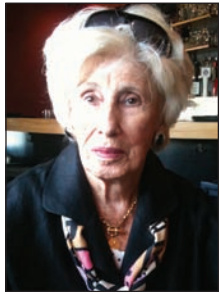
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Last month my grandmother-in-law, Pat Smith, died at the age of 93. She was never a gardener, although she liked flowers. What we had in common, other than family stuff, was that we were both publishers. In fact, I was probably only able to become a publisher due to her allowing Dean (my husband, her grandson) and me work on the *Upstate Gardeners' Journal* in her office, using her equipment, on the weekends and evenings when no one else was there. We both worked for her

newspaper, the *Gates-Chili News*, as well, so we were in those offices a lot in the beginning. Eventually, I relocated my office and started working on the UGJ—which she referred to as “that farming paper you do”—full-time.

Mana and I didn't start out very well, but over the past twenty-odd years we warmed up to one another, gradually, and recently became quite close. She was very proud of the fact that I'd followed in her footsteps, and told me that all the time. About a year ago I went to visit her at her nursing home and she excitedly produced a copy of Rochester's Greentopia festival brochure, which was done (vaguely) in the style of this magazine. “I found this,” she said, “and I just knew you'd love it!” I did, I told her, and in fact, I had published it. She beamed, and so did I.

It's with love and gratitude that I dedicate this issue of the *Upstate Gardeners' Journal* to my mentor, Patricia Mary Kielly Smith.

Jane

Small Batch Strawberry Jam

Makes 4 cups

3 ½ lbs. strawberries, washed, hulled and halved
2 ¾ cups sugar
½ tsp. kosher salt
1 lemon, quartered

3. Remove lemon. Chill jam in airtight containers up to one month in refrigerator or freeze up to 6 months.

Variation: Replace 1 lb. strawberries with 1 lb. chopped rhubarb.

1. Mix all ingredients in a heavy medium stainless steel pot. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until fruit releases juices, about 30 minutes.

2. Continue to cook, stirring as needed to prevent sticking, until thick and slightly darker, about 1 ½ hours.

Recipe courtesy Marion Morse, Allyn's Creek Garden Club



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What to do in the garden in May and June

May and June bring much delight to gardeners with the longer daylight hours and warmer temperatures to tackle various timely gardening chores.

Spring is a good time to set up your home compost systems. Compost is the end product of decomposed yard wastes such as fallen leaves, grass clippings, weeds, and plant based kitchen scraps. It returns organic matter back to the soil that adds nutrients to help plants grow healthy.

You can add rain barrels to collect rainwater, which will help reduce municipal or well water needs. To prevent mosquitos from laying eggs, use a barrel with a fine screen over the top or use commercially available floating mosquito controls.

LAWN CARE

Cool -season grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and fescues are popular lawn grasses grown in New York State. They love cooler weather and during the spring months put on 60% of their growth.

LAWN MOWING TIPS

Set your mower at 3 inches or its highest setting

Mow frequently when the lawn is actively growing

Do not use a bag or catcher; leave clippings on the lawn

Use a sharp blade (blades should be sharpen at least once a year)

BULBS

Fertilize spring flowering bulbs (tulips, daffodils, crocus)

Late May or early June is a good time, after danger of a hard frost, to plant summer/fall flowering bulbs such as dahlias, cannas, begonias, gladioluses, and crocosmia.

ANNUALS

Gardeners usually start planting annual flowers around Memorial Day Weekend and into the beginning of June. Make sure the danger of frost is past. You may need to cover up plants if cold temperatures are predicted at night.

Plan to add annuals to flower beds, companion vegetable gardens, and containers when temperatures are warm.

PERENNIALS

Divide summer and fall blooming perennials that are outgrowing their spaces.

Add spring blooming perennials to your garden beds such as Lenton rose, columbines, bleeding hearts, moss phlox, and primroses.

Plan to bring color throughout the gardening months by adding a sequence of blooming perennial plants.

ROSES

Prune out dead rose canes to shape the plant and open up the interior canes for better air circulation.

Check soil pH and adjust if necessary. Roses grow best in soil with a pH between 6.5 and 6.8

Add organic matter such as well-rotted manure or compost. Phosphorus may be added at planting time to help produce good roots.

Fertilizer may be applied during the growing season to encourage repeat of rose blooms.

VEGETABLES

Start cucumber, melon and squash seeds indoors in early May.

Early May is also a good time to transplant onion sets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower and lettuce seedlings into the garden.

Assemble a wire compost bin right in your vegetable garden. Place a layer of sticks

at the bottom of the wire bin followed by a layer of straw to help air flow to speed up the decomposition process as weeds are added.

TREES & SHRUBS

Prune out the dead wood.

Adjust pH if woody plants are showing signs of nutrient deficiency.

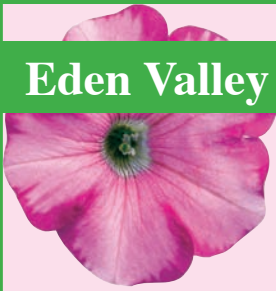
Fertilize young trees with slow-release fertilizer and water regularly and deeply.

Prune spring-flowering shrubs like lilacs right after bloom time.

— Holly Wise, Extension Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County



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Foliage, Edibles, and Some Cheating

A New Garden Diary, 2010-2013

Story and photography by Michelle Sutton



LEFT: Scotch broom

RIGHT: Sunrise garden

that feels strange, but great) little house feels really naked without any garden beds. The view south out the kitchen window onto the neighbors' is unmitigated, and one family seems to be hosting a continuous Monster Truck event in their yard. So what, in the latest lingo, is the "ecosystem service" I need from my new garden?

A buffer! I have a vision of a very comforting trio of purple smokebushes interspersed with ornamental grasses, all moving in the breeze and pleasantly distracting me.

But here's the thing. The soil here is junk—low-fertility, sandy, stony mayhem. I can't dig more than 7 or 8 inches before reaching impenetrable hardpan. As my horticulture training would indicate, I should bring in massive quantities of compost to build up the beds. But honestly, I am worn out from hauling heavy stuff over the last ten years. Also, I don't know how long we will be here, so I don't want to put a lot of money and effort in. Time to go pet Butter and cogitate.

JUNE 2010

This feels like cheating, but I still can't bear the thought of paying for and hauling tons of compost. I just want to get stuff in the ground and circle the Buffer Garden with loving energy.

I've decided to skip soil remediation for now and turn to good old plant-site matching skills, putting some favorite tough shrubs and ornamental grasses to the test. Plants, I offer you no amendment at this time, but I in turn covenant to water you abundantly, mulch you (with the most lightweight mulch I can find, in keeping with my laziness), and fertilize you with a treasured natural resource, courtesy of little 3 ½ -pound Butter Buns.

Bunny manure, aka "bunure," is a type of cold manure that can be applied directly to new or old plantings without having to be composted first. Every time I watch Butter eat her Timothy hay, I think 1) "Good bunny, eating her hay!" and 2) "Oh goodie, this is going to generate awesome bunure for my garden!"

I have gathered up some of the loveliest, most rugged full-sun, drought-tolerant plants I know; I bought them all affordably in small sizes since the planting depth here is so limited anyway. As it is, I will be planting high in some

DIARY: MAY, 2010 — NEW PALTZ, NEW YORK

Dale and I got married in March without knowing if he'd move to Rochester or if I'd move to New Paltz. But now we've decided that I will move here in July. I've had my business for nearly ten years; it will be emotional to say goodbye to clients and gardens I've grown close to over time, not to mention friends and communities I'm a part of.

How did Dale convince me to move? He dangled several carrots, but one thing he did was especially canny. He latched onto a casual mention I made of wanting a house bunny, and then he effusively encouraged me to get one: "Why don't you bring the bunny here? The sun room would be perfect!"

I promptly adopted Butter Buns (Butter for short) from Lollypop Farm and brought her down here, where she is free-range, basks in morning rays, and half closes her eyes in pleasure when the breeze comes through and ruffles her soft white fur. So, now my beloved husband and my little buddy (my first pet since childhood) are here. The whole family! Clever man.

I am here visiting Dale and Butter, and his (our! —

cases and may even have to sever some roots (the worst kind of cheating).

Here are the plants I've amassed that will give the garden structure:

'Royal Purple' smokebush (*Cotinus coggygria*). My hope is that a trio will form a mass of beautiful foliage and be both backdrop and focal point. Smokebushes can tolerate a range of poor soils—in my case, low-fertility, excessively well-drained, "mayhem" soil.

Rugosa roses (*Rosa rugosa*). These are so tough that they're sometimes used in highway medians.

A Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) with speckled pink flowers.

'The Blues' little bluestem grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*): blue in summer; bronze-red in fall

Big bluestem grass (*Andropogon gerardii*): elegant icon of the Prairie

Gray's sedge (*Carex greyi*): wet/dry, rich soil or boney soil – supremely adaptable

'Rotstrahlbusch' red switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*): gorgeous burgundy in the fall

Dwarf eulalia grass (*Miscanthus sinensis 'Adagio'*): makes a charming mound

As I sit here visualizing what I want to put where, I am watching baby woodchucks come out from under the shed and frolic in the grass. They are so darn cute, yet it occurs to me I should go take a picture of the unusual, feathery-petaled prairie coneflower I planted this spring before it gets masticated.

JULY 2010

The plants are in and they look a bit forlorn out there floating in all that space, but I direct-seeded some red okra and parsley, two easy-to-grow plants with beautiful foliage that do fine with low soil fertility. In a few patches I put down tiny islands of compost to make things hospitable for some 'Bright Lights' swiss chard, which is adding some striking vertical streaks of color throughout the garden.

I also planted two hardy kiwi vines (*Actinia arguta*) along the front steps—one male and one female plant—after giving the site a bit of compost. It will be three to five years, I gather, before I see any of the grape-size, smooth edible fruit.

I conjecture the neighbors are thinking, "Where are the flowers?" More than ever, I am selecting on foliage appeal. Like a hipster saying "I don't even own a TV," a horticulturist is in danger of becoming a cliché when she says, "I don't even care about flowers anymore."

I do care about flowers, but I care about foliage more. Foliage gives me form and texture and color all summer and asks so little. It never clashes with its neighbors. It doesn't need deadheading. It provides a superb foil to the flowers I do use.

OCTOBER 2010

I've been strategically applying Butter's bunure to the sections where I wanted to plant garlic, and now the garlic's in, as are a few daffodil bulbs. Next year, I'm hoping the purple smokebushes really take off, to give the garden its

backbone/definition.

MAY 2011

All the plants survived their first winter here, and the emerging garlic foliage is quite ornamental. I planted a raspberry bush; yes, I know it will spread like gangbusters—bring it on, young bramble! I am seeing my garden take shape as a place for foliage and increasing numbers of edibles, with a few flowers here and there, like 'State Fair' zinnias from seed.

AUGUST 2011

Holy house bunnies! A wet summer + copious bunure = astonishing growth in the Buffer Garden. After just 14 months, the garden is exceeding my vision for it. Butter Buns is now part of a closed system, a veritable poster bun for permaculture. She adores the raspberries. Few things in life are more satisfying than putting bunure around a raspberry bush, then harvesting berries to feed back to the bunurist herself ...

I tried to grow showy greens like kale and collards in the beds, but the woodchuck(s) laid waste to several iterations. Mercifully, they don't go for the 'Bright Lights'; they prefer to dine on earth tones.

APRIL 2012

Having grown so much last season, the purple smokebush is ready for its first coppicing (hard prune). Given the choice between deep dark foliage and wispy smoke-like flowers (which set on the previous year's wood), I'll take the foliage color.

JUNE 2012

Striking foliage is the constant in the Buffer Garden; interplanting ornamentals provides the changing tableau. I planted several varieties of different winter squashes from seed for ground cover/weed suppression, and if there are viable, flavorful cucurbits that come from it, that's a bonus!

SEPTEMBER 2012

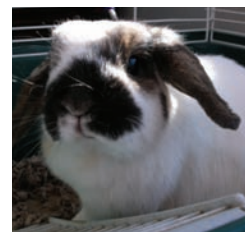
Long Island cheese squash doesn't have a cheese-like or very impressive flavor in general, but the fruits are super cool looking (like wheels of cheese) and the foliage was attractive until the very end. The patty pan squashes are beautiful and melt in the mouth when sautéed, and the foliage was a gorgeous dark screen with silvery threads.

APRIL 2013

Just hard pruned the smokebushes, selectively pruned the rugosa roses, and trimmed the hardy kiwi vine to direct its growth. The garlic foliage is up and looking lovely as ever. The raspberry plant is now a bona fide patch. Little winter-dried bunure pellets are everywhere apparent to the trained eye. It's funny but I guess I shouldn't be surprised: putting in a garden where I thought I wouldn't stay? Makes me want to stay.

For more pictures of Michelle Sutton's garden, visit upstategardenersjournal.com/current-issue.

"Foliage gives me form and texture and color all summer and asks so little."



TOP: Butter Buns

BOTTOM: Grey's sedge

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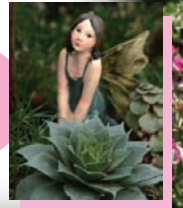
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Woodlot Wildflowers

Story and photographs by Rich Finzer



There's no doubt about it—I adore wildflowers; it doesn't matter what kind. It could be a lush stand of Joe-pye weed growing in a damp ditch, or the azure-blue blossoms of chicory sprouting from roadside gravel. Here in upstate New York, we're blessed with both an abundance of wildflowers as well as scores of wildflower species. As the owner of a 40-acre perennial garden (my woodlot), some of my favorites are the early springtime arrivals found growing there.

Once the woods sheds its blanket of snow and sunshine begins warming the ground, the flowers that remained buried all winter reawaken. Only during early spring, before the deciduous canopy leafs out, will the sun's rays will reach the forest floor. During this fleeting weather window, lasting only 4 to 6 weeks, is when woodland wildflowers must complete their flowering and pollination cycles. Following that, the ground is enshrouded in deep shadow and the sunny window closes for another year.

The vanguards of the flowering cycle are spring beauties, or *Claytonia virginica*. These tiny little blossoms poke through the dried leaves by late March or early April. The plant's miniature blossoms, borne on slender, 2-inch stems, measure less than ½ inch across, smaller than the diameter of a dime. Each has

five tiny petals lined with veins of color ranging from light pinks to deep magenta. It's been said that, like snowflakes, no two spring beauty petals are identical. I couldn't say for sure. All I know is that my small forest is chockablock with them. I've read that these tiny plants are endangered, but given their profusion in my woods, you couldn't prove that by me. I *do* know this. If it had been left up to me, I'd have named them spring "cuties." And once their buds open, the emergence of the trout lily follows close behind.

Trout lily (*Erythronium americanum*) is known by several other colloquial names as well. It's frequently referred to as adder's tongue, owing to the resemblance of its pointed purple mottled leaves to the mouth of a snake. Some field guides also refer to it as dogtooth violet. Until I acquired guidebook listing them, I simply called them "forest lilies." A mature plant produces a pair of leaves and a single bright yellow blossom borne on a stalk 5 to 6 inches high. If soil and growing conditions are optimum, trout lilies will proliferate into vast colonies.

In my woods the plants seem to prefer growing on well drained, gently sloping ground with a western exposure, ensuring each receives the maximum amount of available sunlight. The soil type is Colonie, a mixture of coarse sand and gravel that drains extremely well. A trout lily can sometimes be difficult to spot if the blossom points slightly downward. The outer color of the petals is purplish-brown which blends into the background of dried leaves littering the ground. So tread gingerly when seeking out these tiny woodland gems lest you crush one accidentally.

You certainly won't confront that problem looking for white trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*). Its snowy-white blossoms and deep-green foliage stand in vivid contrast against the dead leaves and gray tree trunks it grows amongst. Also known as great trillium or white wake-robin, these plants have a native range extending across much of the eastern U.S. and southern Canada. As its name implies, everything about trillium is about the number 3. The flower has only three petals and the plant has only three leaves. The deeply veined foliage forms far up the stem and the flower emerges just above them on a short stalk. The plants typically reach an overall height of roughly 12 to 15 inches. Framed against the drab surface of the forest floor, white trillium instantly garners your attention.

ABOVE: Mass colony of white trillium

Trillium prefer moist humus-rich ground and seem to favor growing amidst beeches or maples. Like trout lilies, trillium will also form vast concentrations. The accompanying photo was taken near the sunny edge of my woodlot. In it you can clearly see the delicately ruffled edges of the trillium petals, but the entire colony stretched back almost 200 feet, disappearing down the back of a slope. I'd estimate there were at least a thousand individuals in the group. If witnessed firsthand, these huge groupings are genuinely impressive. However, despite its apparently profligate nature, white trillium is an extremely delicate plant. Picking the flowers or carelessly knocking off a leaf will usually result in the plant's death. Because of this, several states including New York, have banned picking wild trillium. Fortunately, these regulations do not ban *transplanting* it, with permission of the landowner.

Many homeowners in my locale have successfully moved trillium from their woods into their yards. If you attempt this, relocate them to a moist shady spot with rich soil and good exposure to the springtime sun. I suppose I could take a whack at it myself, but why bother? I prefer leaving them to their own devices, revisiting them every spring when they reappear. And while I renew my affection for them, I'm constantly on the lookout for another member of the family; red trillium.

Red trillium (*T. erectum*) is sometimes called purple trillium—or stinking Benjamin owing to its scent that mimics that of rotted meat. As wild bee colonies may still be dormant when red trillium commences flowering, it relies on carrion flies for pollination. My woodlot is separated into two distinct sections and each species of trillium seems to favor one over the other. The white ones thrive on the slightly higher drier ground where beeches and sugar maples predominate, while the red cousins grow exclusively near my creek, sharing space with black cherry trees and red maples.

Red trillium grows slightly taller than the white variety to a height of about 18 inches. The flowers have 3 petals possessing a deep rich burgundy-red hue. As the blooms age, the color gradually fades to a crimson red and finally a tired pink. This makes an excellent yardstick for determining how long a plant has been in flower, as this transition takes place over about 3 weeks. However, aside from the differences in color and size from its white brethren, the plants are equally delicate and equally protected by the same picking ban.

Like the pages in a book, or the days of the week, the disappearance of one wildflower variety signals the emergence of another. So as the blossoms of the red trillium begin fading, wild violets take their place in the growing cycle.

An ancient logging road bisects my woodlot and from its compacted surface, longspur violets (*Viola rostrata*) spring forth in compact little groups. As with most other woodland flower varieties, the violets prefer well-drained soil. Much like the venue favored by

Additional Resources/Information

Field Guide to Wildflowers; Northeastern/North Central North America; Peterson/McKenny
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: <http://www.wildflower.org/>



LEFT: Solitary spring beauty

RIGHT: Marsh marigold

the trout lilies, the old road also sits atop a seam of Colonie soil. Aside from the humus provided by decaying leaves, it contains virtually no organic matter, but the violets don't seem to mind. At my place, this is their preferred growing location. The small blossoms have five petals and their color varies plant to plant from a deep rich bluish-purple to royal blue and on to even lighter tints. They usually emerge about the same time the black flies start hatching and trees begin leafing out.

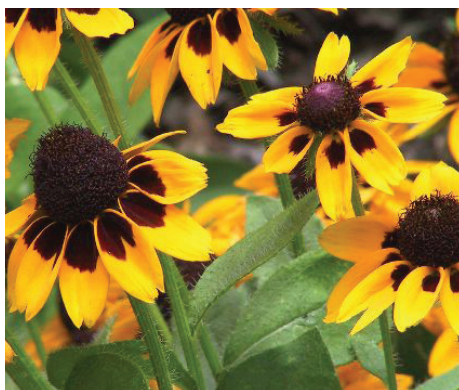
Soon the forest canopy will fill in and as the ground beneath cools in the shade, it signals the conclusion of the flowering cycle. Only where the sun's rays still reach the ground will flowers continue to flourish. On my farm, that remaining sunny area is the mushy mud flat flanking the creek.

Growing atop that guck are verdant clumps of marsh marigolds (*Caltha palustris*). Early English colonists referred to these flowers as "cowslips" due to their striking resemblance to the cowslip plants of their native land, and that name has stuck with the flower ever since. Call them what you may, they produce a dazzling display of bright yellow flowers.

Each bloom is formed of five petals and measures roughly one inch across. Contrasted against their dark green foliage, the blossoms are easy to spot. Some of my neighbors have been successful transplanting these flowers too. As with the white trillium, I haven't bothered. Digging around in that muck does not excite me. I'd rather leave them in their natural habitat.

After enduring the harshness of our winters, when spring *mercifully* arrives, the fleeting appearance of our woodland wildflowers is the reward we upstate denizens receive in return for our patience.

Raised in Chili, NY, Rich Finzer resides on an 80-acre farm near Hannibal, NY. He is a regular contributor to *Living Aboard*, *Life in the Finger Lakes* and *Dollar Stretcher* magazines.



A Riot of Rudbeckias

by Colleen O'Neill Nice

Last July, my mom and I embarked on our first day-long coach tour sponsored by the Buffalo National Garden Festival. We visited several diverse gardens in the towns south of Buffalo, including an exuberant landscape sprawling across several acres. Welcoming fields of color greeted us in the bright afternoon sun. Immense daisy-like blooms of brown-eyed Susans, in hues of yellow, gold, orange, bronze and red glowed amid the colorful daylilies. With little rainfall and no supplemental irrigation, these plants were blissfully thriving in full sun with minimal water. I was immediately captivated by the flamboyant flowers. I needed to find out more.

A native to North America, rudbeckia is a genus of 23 species including annuals, biennials and perennials. Most gardeners are familiar with *Rudbeckia fulgida* 'Goldsturm', the perennial black-eyed susan that flourishes throughout summer and fall. Newer varieties of rudbeckia have been introduced in the past several years featuring large flowers in vibrant colors. Primarily considered annuals or short-lived perennials, they are members of the largest species: *hirta*. These new hybrids, commonly referred to as gloriosa daisies, are drought-tolerant, sun-loving, prolific bloomers, easy to grow and self-sowing. Simply dazzling!

ABOVE LEFT:

Large orange and mahogany blooms of 'Autumn Colors'.

Photo courtesy of Colleen O'Neill Nice

ABOVE CENTER:

The fluted petals of 'Spotlight'.

ABOVE RIGHT:

Unique color combinations of Rudbeckia 'Orange Chocolate'.

ANNUAL RUDBECKIAS

One of my favorites, 'Autumn Colors', delivers the largest blooms ever grown on a gloriosa daisy. Its maroon center is accentuated by fiery petals of orange, gold and mahogany. Unique color patterns dominate five to seven inch blooms. Strong stems grow 20 to 24 inches tall and 12 to 15 inches wide. 'Autumn Colors' won the Fleuroselect Quality Mark, Europe's highest award for flowering ornamentals from seed. Although stunning in the garden, its long-lasting blooms are a must in a vase.

For an outstanding mix of double flowers, try 'Cherokee Sunset'. Autumn shades include orange, gold, red, bronze and brown. Strong, well branched thirty-inch stems bloom from July until frost. It self sows easily on bare soil and should be spaced twelve inches apart to allow for good air circulation. A Fleuroselect winner, it was

chosen for superior breeding, beauty and performance by the International Organization for Ornamental Plants.

Imagine a spectacular rudbeckia in shades of red and maroon with a big black eye. The first-ever, crimson flowering black-eyed susan from seed, 'Cherry Brandy' is blanketed with three to four inch blooms from summer through fall. Very strong stems, just two feet tall, support dozens of blooms which bees and butterflies adore. To stimulate constant blooming, deadhead plants throughout the summer as needed. Allow the last flowers of autumn to dry completely on the plants to encourage reseeding. 'Cherry Brandy' seedlings are slow starters, so be sure to start these seeds indoors in early to late winter.

Scrumptious, dark chocolate centers contrast with the bright orange tips of 'Orange Chocolate'. This new color combination is unique and stunning. Plants grow 24 inches tall and 18 inches wide in sun or part shade. They are deer resistant, suitable for xeriscaping and self sow freely.

Just 18 inches tall, 'Corona' is compact and densely branched with large, semi-double yellow petals surrounding a brown cone. It thrives in well-drained, average soil in full sun. Its crisp blooms pair well with the mottled flowers of 'Autumn Colors' or the vivid shades of 'Cherry Brandy'.

Easily propagated from seed, 'Marmalade' germinates in ten to fifteen days. Plants produce five-inch blooms of orange-yellow petals surrounding prominent brown cones. It is reliable and a good choice for novice gardeners. 'Marmalade' grows quickly (two feet tall) and blooms prolifically if watered regularly, especially throughout hot summers.

DWARF RUDBECKIAS

For small gardens and containers, several petite varieties are available. 'Goldilocks,' in development for over twelve years, displays plentiful large double and semi-double canary-colored flowers. Just eight to ten inches tall with a bushy habit, it produces a mass of color for months. Often used in public spaces, this little powerhouse blooms

under extreme conditions.

'Becky' grows ten to twelve inches tall with orange, yellow and cinnamon bicolor flowers. Combine it with the bright yellow petals and a floriferous disposition of 'Becky Yellow'. Add the rusty-red colored centers of 'Becky Cinnamon BiColor,' surrounded by petals of yellow, orange and mixed hues. All love full sun and will reseed gently, although the offspring may not be as short as the parents. Butterflies and bees are attracted to the well branched plants that bloom from late spring until fall with regular deadheading.

Ideal for window boxes, rock gardens and the front of the border, 'Toto Lemon' bears three inch pastel yellow daisies on stout, very erect stems. It maintains its color and shape remarkably well for drying. To extend bud production, remove dead blossoms regularly. Just under a foot tall, 'Spotlight' has a charming chocolate-brown dollop on every slightly fluted petal. Very weather resistant, it focuses all its energy on good branching and bud production. The most compact dwarf rudbeckia, 'Toto Lemon' grows six to eight inches tall and ten inches wide.

The fluffy, zinnia-like blooms of 'Maya' are sunny-yellow with green centers. A pioneer in double flowered dwarf rudbeckias, it is a perennial in zones 5-9 and grows just eighteen inches tall. It was awarded a Fleuroselect Gold Medal for compact plant habit and excellent garden performance after trials in more than forty public gardens across the United States, Europe and Asia. Ornamental seed heads can be left intact for winter interest.

PERENNIAL RUDBECKIAS

The light green cones of 'Prairie Sun', surround orange-yellow rays brushed with lemon-citrus tips. Masses of long-lasting flowers with hues reliably consistent create bold accents in the garden or containers. The three foot tall plants will tolerate clay soils, but prefer organically rich loams. 'Prairie Sun' received both the All-American Selection and Fleuroselect Gold Medal awards in 2003 for stunning petal color combination, upright stems and excellent weather resistance. Grown as a perennial in zones 3 to 8, it can be started indoors from seed in late February or early March.

To commemorate their 150th anniversary, the city of Denver developed the 'Denver Daisy'. The signature plant is a cross between the native *Rudbeckia hirta* and the award winning 'Prairie Sun'. Seeds were distributed to the public through schools, offices and organizations to help beautify the city. Huge six-inch pure yellow blooms, marked with a prominent rich mahogany eye, surround a black central cone. Compact and bushy, this drought resistant perennial (zones 3-9) flowers for months on strong stems that won't flop, even in inclement weather. It grows 18 to 20 inches tall and 10 to 18 inches wide. It received the 2010 American Garden Award grand prize for its large, long-blooming flowers, extreme heat tolerance and pest resistance.

Bright splashes of gold, copper and brown petals highlight the vigorous Fleuroselect gold medal winner, 'Cappuccino'. Uniform, well-branched plants grow 18 to 20



inches tall and 14 to 16 inches wide. It is a "cut-and-come" plant, so the more you cut, the more they bloom. Through breeding, these tetraploids have twice the chromosomes of other rudbeckias, giving them exceptional bloom strength. They are a hardy, long-lived perennial in zones 3-9.

The unique quilled flower petals of 'Chim Chiminee' in velvety, rustic shades are impressive in a butterfly garden or mailbox planting. This fast growing, multi-branching perennial is hardy in zones 3-9 and grows 24 to 30 inches tall. Flowers bloom from July until frost if watered weekly, especially in extreme heat.

Add a sprinkling of whimsy to your garden with 'Irish Spring'. Yellow-orange rays surround a vivid green center disk creating five to seven inch daisy-like blooms. Basal clumps of bristly, olive-green leaves surround robust single flower stems. 'Irish Spring' blooms the first year from seed and is hardy in zones 3-8. It will also self-seed if given optimum conditions. It prefers moist, organically rich soil but grows well in average, well drained garden beds.

PROPAGATION

Rudbeckia are easy to grow from seed and are available at retail locations, through mail order and from internet seed sources. Some of my favorite on-line catalogs for rudbeckia seeds include Johnny's Selected Seeds (www.johnnyseeds.com), Hazzard's Seed Store (www.hazzardsgreenhouse.com), Select Seeds (www.selectseeds.com), Park Seed (parkseed.com) and T's Flowers & Things (www.tsflowers.com).

For indoor propagation of annual rudbeckia, sow seeds six to eight weeks before your last frost date in a thoroughly moistened sterile, seed-starting mix. Put one to two seeds in each cell of the flat, pressing gently into the soil barely covering the seeds. Keep the tray in a warm location (70-72°F is ideal for seed germination) until seeds sprout, usually five to fourteen days. Once the seedlings appear, place the flat under grow lights or near a sunny window. After two sets of leaves develop, seedlings can be thinned by pinching or cutting weak plants at the soil line. Tender seedlings need to be hardened off before they can be transplanted into the garden. Start by leaving plants outdoors in a shaded, protected location for about three to four hours. Over a seven to ten day period, gradually increase the time spent outdoors as well as the sun exposure. Perennial rudbeckia seeds started indoors can be placed in the refrigerator for four weeks, and then moved to warmer temperatures, to improve germination.

ABOVE LEFT:
The captivating blooms of 'Becky Cinnamon BiColor'.

ABOVE RIGHT:
The fluffy, zinnia-like blooms of 'Maya'.

For propagating rudbeckia outdoors, sow seeds directly in the garden when daytime temperatures reach 60°F. Choose a site with well drained soil and full to part sun. Sow perennial rudbeckias in fall or early spring. Gently press seeds into the soil making sure they are not completely covered. Seeds need light and moisture to germinate. Keep seedbed consistently damp. As seedlings grow, thin plants to maintain good air circulation. The mature size of the plant determines the correct spacing. Allow eight to twelve inches between annual rudbeckias and 18-30 inches for perennial varieties. Plant dwarf varieties closer together, spacing plants four to six inches apart.

CULTURAL CONDITIONS

Most rudbeckias tolerate a wide range of well drained soils. Plants become weak and flowers flop when soils are too rich. Root rot is a problem if soils are too moist, so allow flowerbeds to dry out between waterings. All rudbeckias thrive in full sun. When grown in light shade, the flowers may be smaller and fewer. They will tolerate dry conditions, but prefer consistent moisture.

Blooming begins in about ten to twelve weeks for annual rudbeckias and continues until frost. Perennial seeds planted in early spring will bloom the first year. To

extend the flowering period, be sure to pinch off faded blooms at the base of the flower stem. To attract birds and encourage reseeding, leave seedheads intact during fall and winter.

Black-eyed Susans are easy to grow, deer resistant and not plagued by disease or pests. If plants are crowded, leaves may develop powdery mildew during hot, humid weather. New seedlings in the garden may need to be transplanted to prevent crowding. Move thinned seedlings to another area of the garden or pot them up for neighbors or community plant sales. Perennial rudbeckias do not need regular dividing, however if plants become crowded, divide clumps in early spring just as growth begins. Watch for slugs and snails that like to eat the tender growth of seedlings.

Adaptable, gloriosa daisies thrive in containers, mixed borders, wildflower meadows, window boxes and cutting gardens. Mass planted or intermixed, combinations are endless. Pair their warm hues with the bluish-purple of Russian sage, liatris, salvia or fall

blooming asters. Create stunning bouquets with the abundant blooms, which last up to three weeks in a vase.

Don't let summer buzz by without enjoying rudbeckias in your garden. Grow them from seed or purchase plants at your favorite nursery. Your only dilemma will be – which variety to grow? So move over 'Goldsturm' and make room for the new hirta hybrids!



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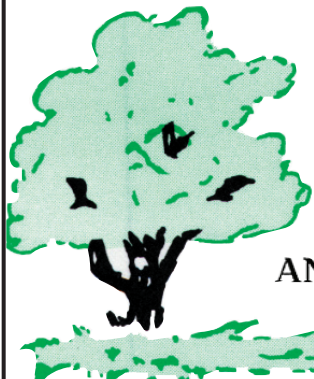
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Calendar

BUFFALO

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

8th District Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc. Maryann Jumper, District Director. 716/435-3412; mjump50@gmail.com; gardenclubsofwny.com.

African Violet and Gesneriad Society of WNY meets the third Tuesday of each month, September - June, at 7:30 pm, LVAC Building, 40 Embury Place, Lancaster. avgswny@verizon.net; gesneriadsociety.org/chapters/wny.

Alden Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except July & August) at 7 pm, Alden Community Center, West Main Street, Alden. New members and guests welcome. Plant sale each May. 716/937-7924.

Buffalo Area Daylily Society. East Aurora Senior Center, 101 King Street, East Aurora. May 19: *May Mecca*. 716/649-8186; buffaloareadaylily@hotmail.com.

Garden Club of the Tonawandas meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm, Tonawanda City Hall, Community Room.

Garden Friends of Clarence meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, September - June, Town Park Clubhouse, 10405 Main Street, Clarence. gardenfriendsofclarence@hotmail.com.

Hamburg Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of every month at noon, summer garden tours, Hamburg Community Center, 107 Prospect Avenue, Hamburg. 716/648-0275; drom-an13@verizon.net.

Niagara Frontier Orchid Society (NFOS) meets the first Tuesday following the first Sunday (dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.), September - June, Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo. niagarafreierorchids.org.

Orchard Park Garden Club meets the first Thursday of the month at 12 pm, Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, 4369 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park. President: Beverly Walsh, 716/662-7279.

Silver Creek-Hanover Garden Club meets the second Saturday of the month at 2 pm, First Baptist Church, 32 Main Street, Silver Creek. May 18: *Garden Faire*. Sue Duecker, 716/934-7608; duke.sue@roadrunner.com.

South Town Gardeners meets the second Friday of the month (except January) at 10:30 am, Charles E. Burchfield Nature & Art Center, 2001 Union Road, West Seneca. New members welcome.

Western New York Carnivorous Plant Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm, Menne Nursery, 3100 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst. wnycpclub@aol.com; facebook.com/wnycpclub.

Western New York Herb Study Group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo.

Western New York Honey Producers, Inc. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County, 21 South Grove Street, East Aurora. wnyhpa.org.

Western New York Hosta Society. East Aurora Senior Center, corner of Oakwood & King Streets. 716/941-6167; h8staman@aol.com; wnyhosta.com.

Western New York Hosta Society Breakfast Meetings, a friendly get-together, first Saturday

of the month at 10 am, Gardenview Restaurant, Union Road, West Seneca. *August 24: Hosta Sale* (see calendar listing below).

Western New York Iris Society meets the first Sunday of the month in members' homes and gardens. Information about growing all types of irises and complementary perennials. Shows. Sale. Guests welcome. Pat Kluczynski: 716/633-9503; patrizia@roadrunner.com.

Western New York Rose Society meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm, St. Stephens-Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 750 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville. May 15: *Early Preparation for Exhibiting Roses & Insects in the Garden*. June 19: *How to Exhibit Roses and Arrangements*. wnyrosesociety.org.

Wilson Garden Club generally meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm, Community Room, Wilson Free Library, 265 Young Street, Wilson. Meetings open to all, community floral planting, spring plant sale, local garden tours. 716/751-6334; wilsongardenclub@aol.com.

Youngstown Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 100 Church Street, Youngstown.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BECBG: Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14218. 716/827-1584; buffalogardens.com.

LOCK: Lockwood's Greenhouses, 4484 Clark Street, Hamburg, NY 14075, 716/649-4684; weknowplants.com.

MENNE: Menne Nursery, 3100 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY 14228. 716/693-4444; mennenuresery.com.

NGF: National Garden Festival, June 21 - August 4, a five-week celebration of the Greater Buffalo area's garden walks, talks, tours and events. 1-800-BUFFALO; info@nationalgardenfestival.com; nationalgardenfestival.com.

ZTL: Zittel's Country Market, 4415 Southwestern Blvd., Hamburg, NY 14075. 716/649-3010; zittels.com.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

• **Ongoing: After-School Escape**, Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:30 pm. A different, fun, outdoor activity each week. Grades K-5. No registration required. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, 93 Honorine Drive, Depew. 716/683-5959; dec.ny.gov/education/1837.html.

Through - November 27: East Aurora Farmers' Market, Wednesday & Saturday, 7 am - 1 pm. Local vendor produced/grown products. Aurora Village (Tops) Plaza, Grey Street, East Aurora.

May 8: Container Garden Make & Take, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. See description under May 4. Materials included. \$40. Registration required. ZTL

May 10: English Garden Trough, 10 am. Make your own. \$35. Registration required. Chicken Coop

Originals, 13245 Clinton Street, Alden. 716/937-7837; chickencooporiginals.com.

May 10: National Public Gardens Day, 10 am - 5 pm. Dollar Day at The Gardens. \$1; free members & kids under 3. BECBG

May 10 - 12: Spring Open House. Hand-painted primitives, country artwork, herbal wreaths & arrangements, collectibles. Chicken Coop Originals, 13245 Clinton Street, Alden. 716/937-7837; chickencooporiginals.com.

S- May 11: Plant Sale, 8 am - 2 pm. Presented by Orchard Park Garden Club. Annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables, accent plants, hanging baskets. Orchard Park Railroad Depot, behind OP Library.

May 11: Carnivorous Plants, 10 am. Dr. Ken Kurbs, WNY Carnivorous Plant Club, will introduce a selection of carnivorous plants along with their proper care and propagation tips. Registration required. MENNE

May 11: Mother's Day Make it for Mom, 10 am - 2 pm. Choose a container and plants, guidance will be given in the assembly process. Fee for materials. ZTL

May 11: 'Hanami' Cherry Blossom Viewing & Picnic, 12 - 4 pm. A hanami is the Japanese spring tradition of having a party under cherry trees during the brief time that they are in bloom. Bring a picnic and friends. Docent-led tours, 1 & 2 pm. Meet: bottom of stone steps near lantern. Free. The Japanese Garden of Buffalo, next to Buffalo History Museum, Elmwood Avenue & Nottingham Terrace.

May 14: Container Workshop, 6:30 pm. Design a container while learning about lesser known annuals and tender perennials. Instructors: Mary Gurtler & Marge Vogel. \$35. Registration required. LOCK

S- May 18: Garden Faire, 9 am - 3 pm. Plants, educational speakers, crafts, bird houses & feeders, drawing, refreshments, children's activities and more. Presented by Silver Creek-Hanover Garden Club. Silver Creek Park & Gazebo, Main Street & Central Avenue, Silver Creek.

May 18: Plant for Hope, 10 am - 4 pm. Fundraiser to benefit Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Bedford's Greenhouse, 6820 Cedar Street, Akron. 716/542-6110; bedfordsgreenhouse.com.

• **May 18: Growing Garden Series for Kids: Crafts for our Plants**, 10:30 am. Create three different recycled crafts to use in a garden bed. Ages 6-8. Registration required. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, 93 Honorine Drive, Depew. 716/683-5959; dec.ny.gov/education/1837.html.

S- May 18 - 19: The Great Plant Sale, 9 am - 4 pm. Hanging baskets, annuals, perennials, ornamental trees & shrubs, rare and unusual plants, deer resistant plants & flowers, natives, tropicals, Japanese maples, herbs and more. Administration Building. BECBG

May 18 - 19: Bonsai Show, 10 am - 5 pm. Presented by Buffalo Bonsai Society. BECBG

May 21: Container Workshop, 6:30 pm. Design a container and learn about lesser known annuals and tender perennials. Instructors: Mary Gurtler & Marge Vogel. \$35. Registration required. LOCK

S- May 24 - 25: Plant Sale, 9 am - 2 pm. Presented by Master Gardeners of Erie County. Large selection of sun and shade perennials from the gardens of Master Gardeners. 1071 Amherst Street, Buffalo. 716/652-5400.

May 28: Container Workshop, 6:30 pm. See description under May 21. \$35. Registration required. **LOCK**

June 1: Odyssey to Ithaca. Join UGJ staff as we travel by motor coach to the Ithaca region. Departing from Buffalo and Batavia stops will include a tour of Bedlam Gardens in King Ferry, Bakers' Acres for a delicious lunch and plant shopping, Cornell Plantations, more plant shopping at Cayuga Landscape and a stop at Ventosa Vineyards on Seneca Lake. \$70. Registration required. Upstate Gardeners' Journal, 1140 Ridge Crest Drive, Victor, NY 14564. 585/538-4980; 716/432-8688; upstategardenersjournal.com.

June 1: Make-It, Take-It: Dazzling Flower Pouch, 9:30 am. Plant a 21" hanging flower pouch which will rest flat against the surface from which it hangs. Empty bags available for participants, \$3 each. **BECEBG**

S- June 1: Plant Sale, 10 am – 3 pm. Presented by Kenan Herb Club. Plant sale & demonstrations using herbs in cooking. Kenan Gardens, 433 Locust Street, Lockport.

S- June 7 – 8: Plant Sale, Friday 8 am – 8 pm; Sunday 8 am – 4 pm. Shop new and interesting varieties as well as old favorites. Presented in partnership by Weeks' Nursery & Gardens by Colleen. Weeks' Nursery & Greenhouses, 5955 Shimerville Road, Clarence Center.

S- June 7 – 8: Plant Sale, 9 am – 5 pm. Presented by Federated Garden Club of NYS District 8. Members will be present to help with plant selection and provide gardening tips. 2703 Colvin Boulevard, Tonawanda. gardenclubsofwny.com.

June 8: Sustainable Gardening Practices, 10 am. Sharon Webber will discuss organic gardening, composting, using native plants and integrated pest management (IPM). Registration required. **MENNE**

June 8: Make & Take Container Garden, 2 pm. See description under June 6. \$35, 12" container; \$45, 16" container. Registration required. **MENNE**

June 8 – July 7: Garden Railway Exhibit, 10 am – 5 pm. Presented by Western New York Garden Railway Society. Included with admission. **BECEBG**

June 15: Make-and-Take: Hypertufa Container, 9 am. Plant a container with succulents or other small plants to create a unique look in your garden or on your patio. Materials included. \$25. Registration required. **ZTL**

June 15: Strawberry Season, 11:30 am. Observe the step-by-step process of canning and freezing strawberry jelly & jam, all of which can be applied to other fruits. Registration required. **ZTL**

June 15 – July 28: Celebration of Coleus & Color, 10 am – 5 pm. **BECEBG**

June 19: Starry Night in the Garden, 6 – 9 pm. Popular musical groups, local restaurants, wineries and breweries. Proceeds benefit the Gardens. Rain or shine. Tickets: tickets.com. **BECEBG**

June 21 – August 4: National Garden Festival. Garden walks & tours, bus tours, weekday open gardens, speakers, workshops. **NGF**

June 22: Perennials Day. Symposium, guest speakers, luncheon. **LOCK / NGF**

June 22: Rose Show. Presented by the Western New York Rose Society. Galleria Mall, Buffalo. wnyrose-society.org.

June 22: Edible Flowers, 10 am. Registration required. **MENNE**

T- June 22 – 23: Lewiston Garden Fest, 10 am – 5 pm. Speakers, vendors, open gardens. Sponsored by Lewiston Garden Club. Center Street, Lewiston. **NGF**

• **June 29 – 30: Fairy Garden Festival.** Classes & fun for all ages. **MENNE**

T- June 30: Parkside Garden Tour, 10 am – 4 pm. **NGF**

June 30: Garden Art Sale, 10 am – 5 pm. Parkside Lodge, Delaware Park, Buffalo. **NGF**

July 6: Native Plants & Sustainable Landscapes. Symposium, speakers, panel, regional foods luncheon. **LOCK / NGF**

T- July 6 – 7: Grand Island Garden Tour, 10 am – 6 pm. **NGF**

July 13: Ornamental Grasses, 10 am. Registration required. **MENNE**

T- July 13: Historic Niagara Falls Garden Walk, 10 am – 2 pm. **NGF**

T- July 13: Samuel P. Capen Garden Walk, 10 am – 4 pm. **NGF**

July 13: Pathways to a Useful Garden, 12 – 3 pm. Topics & presenters: *Easy Pathways and Patios*, Barry Duerr; *Medicinal Herbs*, Richard Price; *Harvesting & Designing w/ Flowers from the Garden*, David Clark & Patti Jablonski-Dopkin. Urban Roots Community Garden Center, 428 Rhode Island Street, Buffalo. 716/362-8982; urbanroots.org. **NGF**

T- July 13: Lockport in Bloom - Twilight in the Garden, 6:30 – 9 pm. Enjoy an evening stroll through select gardens. 716/434-2380; Facebook; lockportinbloom.com. **NGF**

T- July 13 – 14: Lockport in Bloom – City-wide Garden Tour & Vendors' Fair, 10 am – 4 pm. Self-guided tour featuring more than 40 private gardens. Vendors' Fair: shop a variety of goods of interest to gardeners. Rain or shine. Free. Kenan Center (Taylor Theatre Building), 433 Locust Street, Lockport. 716/434-2380; Facebook; lockportinbloom.com. **NGF**

T- July 13 – 14: Hamburg Garden Walk, 10 am – 4 pm. Self-guided. Vendors. Maps: Memorial Park, corner Lake & Union Streets, Hamburg. hamburg-gardenwalk.com. **NGF**

T- July 14: Snyder-CleveHill Garden View, 10 am – 4 pm. **NGF**

SAVE THE DATE...

T- July 27 – 28: GardenWalk Buffalo, 10 am – 4 pm. gardenwalkbuffalo.com. **NGF**

ITHACA

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

Adirondack Chapter, North American Rock Garden Society (ACNARGS). Meets in the Whetzel Room, Room 404, Plant Science Building, Cornell University, Ithaca. Free and open to all. acnargs.blogspot.com; facebook.com/acnargs.

Windsor NY Garden Group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 10 am, members' homes or Windsor Community House, 107 Main Street, Windsor. windsorgardengroup.suerambo.com.

FREQUENT HOSTS

CCE/TOM: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tompkins County, 615 Willow Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850. 607/272-2292; tompkins@cornell.edu; cceetompkins.org.

CP: Cornell Plantations, 1 Plantations Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. Inquire ahead for meeting places. 607/255-2400; cornellplantations.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

Ongoing through May 26: Wildflower Walk, Sundays, 1 pm. Sapsucker Woods. Meet: Lab of Ornithology Visitor Center, 254 Sapsucker Woods Road. Rain or shine. Free. No registration required. **CP**

May – October: Herbal Apprenticeship, 6 week-ends. An informative and experience-based foundation for the life-long journey of becoming a practitioner of herbal medicine. Heartstone Herbal School, Van Etten. 607/589-4619; heart-stone.com.

May 4: Make a Miniature Fairy Container Garden, 10 am – 12 pm. Fairy gardens are miniature gardens that are meant to look like they were built by fairies and often include garden props, tools and tiny whimsical toys along with flowers, herbs or perennials. Lecture and hands on workshop for all ages. \$50 kit; or \$10 plus supplies. Registration required. Bakers' Acres, 1104 Auburn Road (Route 34), Groton. 607/533-4653; bakersacres.net.

May 7: Planning a Rock Garden – Ideas and Tips, 6 – 8 pm. Learn construction, easy plants to grow, and options such as troughs. Tour the Al Wurster Demonstration Rock Garden followed by indoor presentation including a slide show of the 100-year-old Frederick Heutte Rock Garden at White Pine Camp in the Adirondacks. Rain or shine. \$5-\$10, self-determined sliding scale. Registration recommended. **CCE/TOM**

May 8: Evening Wildflower Walk, 6:30 pm. Tour the woodland pathways and varied plant habitats of the Mundy Wildflower Garden with gardener and native plants specialist Krissy Boys. Meet: Caldwell Road entrance, intersection of Caldwell and Forest Home Drive. Free. **CP**

May 9: Dividing Daylilies and Other Perennials, 6 – 8 pm. Hands-on workshop. Participants will learn how to divide perennials such as daylilies, Siberian iris, Hosta, bearded iris, or phlox. Rain or shine. \$12. Registration required. pc21@cornell.edu. **CCE/TOM**

May 10: National Public Gardens Day. Bird walk, botanical garden tour, wildflower walk, art exhibit. **CP**

May 11: Plantations Running Tour – 5 or 10K, 10 am or noon. See gorges, gardens and green spaces on this moderate jog with Plantations staff. There will be several stops to interpret plants and landscapes or admire the view. \$10 members; \$12 non-members. Registration required. **CP**

May 13: Paradise Lot: Growing an Edible Garden Oasis, 6 – 8 pm. Jonathan Bates will talk about his 10-year-old edible forest garden in Holyoke, MA. Free. Tompkins County Public Library, Borg Warner Room, 101 East Green Street, Ithaca. **CCE/TOM**

Calendar

ITHACA continued

S- May 18: Spring Garden Fair & Plant Sale, 9 am – 2 pm. A wide variety of vendors offering specialty annuals and perennials, rock garden plants, organically grown & heirloom vegetables, annuals, herbs, hanging baskets, small flowering shrubs, hardy roses, fruit crops, evergreens. Free soil pH testing. Rain or shine. Ithaca High School, Cayuga Street, off Route 13. **CCE/TOM**

May 29: Evening Wildflower Walk, 6:30 pm. See description under May 8. Free. **CP**

S- June 8: Plant Sale, 9 am – 4 pm. Take home some of Plantations gardeners' top picks for your home landscape. **CP**

T- June 9: Garden Tour, 1 – 5 pm. Captivating Country Views. Tour six gardens in Genoa. Presented by Southern Cayuga Garden Club. \$10, day of: Smith's General Store Museum, Route 90, Genoa. socayugagardenclub.org.

June 13: Insect Pests of Vegetable Gardens: Identification & Organic Control, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Learn to identify common insect pests of the garden and how to control them using cultural and organic techniques. \$5-\$10, self-determined sliding scale. Registration required. **CCE/TOM**

June 15: Open Gardens Day, 10 am – 4 pm. Highlights include a magnolia collection, unusual plant choices, an arbor of seventy-five roses, shaded Japanese garden and pool, interconnected ponds with lotus, water lilies, and koi. Benefits Garden Conservancy and Tompkins County

Community Beautification Program. Gardens: Bedlam Gardens, 1893 Route 34B, King Ferry; Frank & Mary Ann Turek, 834 Mahaney Road, King Ferry; Lion Garden, 219 Lansing Station Road, Lansing. Rain or shine. \$5 per garden; children 12 & under free. 888/842-2442; opendaysprogram.org.

Ongoing June 15 – September 28: Botanical Garden Highlights Tour, Saturdays, 10 – 11 am. Enjoy a guided tour through the Botanical Gardens. Tour content will vary depending on the plants, season, interests of the group and whim of the docent. Meet: Nevin Welcome Center. Free. **CP**

June 16: The Gardener's Trail, 10 am – 4 pm. Hands-on activities, samples and tours at locally-owned garden centers and nurseries in Tompkins County. Participating businesses and activities offered at each can be found online at cctompkins.org/gardeners-trail. Free. **CCE/TOM**

June 16: Knoll Stroll, 2 pm. Join gardener Phil Syphrit on this tour of Comstock Knoll and learn about the history and plant collections of the Botanical Garden's most prominent landscape feature. Some slope and stair climbing required. Meet: Nevin Welcome Center. Free. **CP**

Ongoing June 16 – October 13: Arboretum Highlights Tour, Sundays, 10 – 11 am. Enjoy a guided tour through the F.R. Newman Arboretum. Tour content will vary depending on the plants, season, interests of the group and whim of the docent. Meet: Sculpture Garden, Newman Arboretum. Free. **CP**

June 24 – 28: Sketching and Painting Trees – A Study Afield, 3 – 6 pm. Week-long immersion in outdoor sketching and watercolor painting. Gentle hikes to discover different species to draw each day. Ages 12 - adult. \$150 members; \$180 non-members. Registration required by June 21. **CP**

June 29: Compost with Confidence – Getting Started, 11 am – 12 pm. Master Composter volunteers provide information and give hands-on demonstrations on how to set up and manage a compost system in any setting. Compost Demonstration site, southwest of Ithaca Farmers' Market. Free. **CCE/TOM**

ROCHESTER

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

7th District Federated Garden Clubs New York State, Inc. meets the first Wednesday of the month. 7thdistrictfgcnys.org. **African Violet Society of Rochester** meets the first Wednesday of each month, September – May, at 7 pm, St. John's Home, 150 Highland Avenue, Rochester. All are welcome. Bob or Linda Springer: 585/413-0606; blossoms002@yahoo.com.

Big Springs Garden Club of Caledonia-Mumford meets the second Monday evening of the following months in the Caledonia-Mumford area: September – November, January – May. New members and guests welcome. 585/314-6292; mdolan3@rochester.rr.com.



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Bonsai Society of Upstate New York meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Brighton Town Park Lodge, Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester. 585/334-2595; bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org.

Fairport Garden Club meets the third Thursday evening of each month (except August and January). Accepting new members. fairportgc@gmail.com; fairportgardenclub.org.

Garden Club of Brockport meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7 pm, Clarkson Schoolhouse, Ridge Road, east of Route 19. Speakers, hands-on sessions. Kathy Dixon: 585/431-0509; kadixon@excite.com.

Garden Path of Penfield meets the third Wednesday of the month from September through May at 7 pm, Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road, Penfield. Members enjoy all aspects of gardening; new members welcome. gardenpathofpenfield@gmail.com.

Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets every month from September through May at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, on the first Monday following the first Sunday of each month (dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.). The GROS is an Affiliate of The American Orchid Society (AOS) and of The Orchid Digest Corporation. geneseeorchid.org.

Genesee Valley Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society (GVC NARGS) meets monthly from March through October. Information: jsamolis@rochester.rr.com; gvnargs.com.

blogspot.com. Newsletter: jhoeffel@aol.com.

Genesee Valley Hosta Society meets the second Thursday of the month, April – October, at Monroe County's Cornell Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester. 585/538-2280; sebuckner@frontiernet.net.

Genesee Valley Pond & Koi Club meets the first Friday of the month at 6:30 pm, Cornell Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester, except in summer when it tours local ponds. bobwheeler58@gmail.com.

Gesneriad Society meets the first Wednesday of each month, September – May, at 6:30 pm, St. John's Home, 150 Highland Avenue, Rochester. All are welcome. Bob or Linda Springer: 585/413-0606; blossoms002@yahoo.com.

Greater Rochester Iris Society meets Sundays at 2 pm, dates vary, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester. Public welcome. 585/599-3502; eschnell@rochester.rr.com.

Greater Rochester Perennial Society (GRPS) meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm, Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester, except in summer when it tours members' gardens. 585/889-4864; laburt@rochester.rr.com; rochesterperennial.com.

Greater Rochester Rose Society meets the first Tuesday of the month, April through November, at Cornell Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester. July & August meetings in members' gardens, December meeting at a member's home. 585/377-0892; 585/621-1115; info@rochesterrosesociety.com.

rocrose.org; rocrose.org.

Henrietta Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of the month (except July & August) at 6:45 pm, Riparian Lecture Hall at Rivers Run, 50 Fairwood Drive, Rochester. Open to all. henriettagardenclub.org; henriettagardenclub@gmail.com.

Holley Garden Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm, Holley Presbyterian Church. 585/638-6973.

Ikebana International Rochester Chapter 53 meets the third Thursday of each month (except December and February) at 10 am, First Baptist Church, Hubbell Hall, 175 Allens Creek Road, Rochester. 585/872-0678; 585/586-0794.

Kendall Garden Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, Kendall Town Hall. 585/659-8289; justadesignabove@hotmail.com.

Rochester Dahlia Society meets the second Saturday of most months at 1 pm, Trinity Reformed Church, 909 Landing Road North, Rochester, except in the summer, when it tours members' gardens. Visitors welcome. 585/249-0624; 585/865-2291; gwebster@rochester.rr.com; rochesterdahliasociety.com.

Rochester Herb Society meets the first Tuesday of each month (excluding January & February) at 12 pm, Rochester Civic Garden Center, 5 Castle Park, Rochester. June-August garden tours. New members welcome.

Rochester Permaculture Center, meets monthly to discuss topics such as edible landscapes, gardening, farming, renewable energy, green building, rainwater harvesting, composting, local food,

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Calendar

ROCHESTER continued

forest gardening, herbalism, green living, etc. Meeting location and details: meetup.com/rochesterpermaculture.

Valentown Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of each month; time alternates between noon and 7 pm. Victor. Kathleen Houser, president: 585/301-6107.

FREQUENT HOSTS

CCE/ONT: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Ontario County, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424. 585/394-3977 x427; nea8@cornell.edu; cceontario.org.

LDMK: Landmark Society of Western NY, 585/546-7029; landmarksociety.org.

LET: Letchworth State Park Interpretive Program, 1 Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY 14427; 585/493-3625.

LIN: Linwood Gardens, 1912 York Road, Linwood, NY 14486. 585/584-3913; linwoodgardens.org.

RBC: Rochester Butterfly Club. Field trips last about 2 hours, some continue into the afternoon, especially those that are further away. Long pants and appropriate footwear strongly recommended. Free and open to the public. rochesterbutterflyclub.org.

RCGC: Rochester Civic Garden Center, 5 Castle Park, Rochester, NY 14620. 585/473-5130; rcgc.org.

SG: Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park, 151 Charlotte Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424. 585/394-4922; sonnenberg.org.

WAY: Wayside Garden Center, 124 Pittsford-Palmyra Road (Route 31), Macedon, NY 14502. 585/223-1222 x100; trish@waysidegardencenter.com; waysidegardencenter.com.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

May 8: Miniature Magical Dish Garden, 7 – 9 pm. Alana Miller will guide participants as they plant a shallow pot with miniature plants and tiny ground covers then landscape it with hardscaping, stones and other ornaments fit for a fairy. Materials included. \$42 members; \$52 non-members. Registration required. **RCGC**

May 9: Wildflower Walk, 1 pm. Upper & Middle Falls area. 3 hours, 1 mile. Meet: Museum parking lot. **LET**

May 9: Creating Pots with Pizzazz - Using Dwarf Shrubs in Containers, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Learn about new varieties of dwarf shrubs that will work well in containers, with tips on how to choose and combine them. Using slides and hands-on demonstration RCGC director and landscape designer Christine Froehlich will show how to put together combinations that last well into the fall. \$22 members; \$32 non-members. Registration required. **RCGC**

May 10 – 19: Lilac Festival. Highland Park, Rochester. rochesterevents.com.

May 10 – 19: Visit Ellwanger Garden, 10 am – 4 pm. Open during Lilac Festival. Historic landscape originally planted in 1867 by nurseryman George Ellwanger. Few blocks from Lilac festivities. \$5 suggested donation. Ellwanger Garden, 625 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester. **LDMK**

S- May 10 – 19: Master Gardener Plant Sale, 10 am – 8 pm. Locally grown lilacs, organic vegetables and herbs. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and help with selections. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester.

S- May 11: Plant Sale, 8 – 11:30 am. Plants provided by local nurseries and from Master Gardeners' private collections. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County, 1581 Route 88 North, Newark. 315/331-8415; counties.cce.cornell.edu/wayne.

S- May 11: Webster Arboretum Plant Sale, 8 am – 12 pm. Perennials from standard to uncommon, annuals, lilacs, dwarf conifers, geraniums, dahlias, various garden club offerings and more. 1700 Schlegel Road, Webster. websterarboretum.org.

S- May 11: Rochester Dahlia Society Plant Sale, 8 am – 12 pm. Dahlia plants and tubers. *Webster Arboretum Plant Sale* (above), Kent Park, 1700 Schlegel Road, Webster.

S- May 11: Plant Sale, 9 – 11:30 am. Featuring plants from the gardens of Ontario County Master Gardeners. **CCE/ONT**

May 11: Planting the Fittest: Survival in the Darwinian Garden, 9:30 am – 12 pm. Master class with Karen Bussolini. Explore the many adaptations plants have developed to survive various challenges, out-compete other plants, conserve moisture, and avoid being eaten. Learn how to use these principles in landscapes and gardens. \$25. Registration required. **RCGC**

May 11: Turning Over a New Leaf, 10 am. Take a closer look at the unfurling leaves, buds and flowers of trees and shrubs. Hand lens helpful. Led by Frank Crombe and Rick Iuli. Thousand Acre Swamp Sanctuary, 1581 Jackson Road, Penfield. 585/425-9561; 585/586-6677; facebook.com/thousandacreswamp.

May 11: Wildflower Walk, 1:30 pm. Lower Canyon Woods. 2 hours, 1 mile. Meet: Parade Grounds parking lot. **LET**

May 11: Smell the Roses, 2 – 4 pm. Master Rosarian Gene Noto will answer questions. Rose Department staff available to help with selection including climbers, containers, fragrance and salt-tolerant shrub roses for tough areas. **WAY**

May 11 – 12: Linwood Tree Peony Festival of Flowers, 10 am – 4 pm. Historic gardens feature a distinguished collection of Japanese and American tree peonies. \$8; \$12 guided tour. **LIN**

S- May 12: Rochester Dahlia Society Plant Sale, 7 am – 1 pm. Dahlia plants and tubers. *Flower City Days at the Market* (below), Rochester Public Market, 280 North Union Street, Rochester.

May 12 – June 9: Flower City Days at The Market. Sundays plus Memorial Day weekend May 24 – 27. Over 250 local nurseries and growers selling plants and garden accessories. Rochester Public Market, 280 North Union Street, Rochester.

May 14: Spring Blooms Stroll at Michael Hannen's Nursery, 6 – 7:30 pm. Michael grows over 800 varieties of plants at his urban home-based nursery. Tour will highlight unusual spring-bloomers.

Arrive early to shop or preview the gardens. \$10 members; \$15 non-members. Registration required. **RCGC**

May 14: Drip Irrigation for the Home Garden, 7 – 8:30 pm. Master Gardener Jeanne Totman will discuss design, set up and how to use drip irrigation in the home garden. She will demonstrate how to set-up a small irrigation system. \$5. Registration required. **CCE/ONT**

May 14 & 16: Intermediate Professional Floral Design Certificate – Bouquets, 6:30 – 9 pm. Styles covered will include vegetative, landscape, botanical, Biedermeier and bouquets. Students take home all arrangements created during class. Prerequisite: *Basic Professional Floral Design* or floral shop experience. \$150 members; \$225 non-members. Registration required. **RCGC**

May 16: Wildflower Walk, 1 pm. East of Lee's Landing. 3 hours, 1 mile. Meet: Parade Grounds parking lot. **LET**

May 16: Spring Tour – Trees of Highland Park, 6 – 8 pm. Join arborophile and local tree expert Jim Atwater during spring bloom for a tour of this living museum of unusual and seldom-seen plants from around the globe. Be prepared to walk a moderate distance over hilly terrain. \$15 members; \$20 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

S- May 17 – 18: Plant Sale, 10 am – 5 pm Friday; 9 am – 3 pm Saturday. Annuals, home-grown perennials, herbs, hanging baskets, raffle. Bloomfield Historical Building, South Avenue, Bloomfield. 585/257-5013.

S- May 18: Native Plant Sale, 8:30 am – 2 pm. Native plants, shrubs, trees, herbs. Proceeds benefit Genesee Land Trust. Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester. **GLT**

S- May 18: Plant Sale, 9 am – 4 pm. Presented by Henrietta Garden Club. Gro-Moore Farm Market, 2811 East Henrietta Road, Henrietta. henriettagardenclub.org; henriettagardenclub@gmail.com.

• **May 18: Children's Program – Jack and the Beanstalk**, 10 – 11:30 am. Kids can grow their own beanstalk in Sonnenberg's Children's Garden. Ages 3 and up, with adult. Visit and care for your plant. Registration required. **SG**

• **May 18: Children's Program – Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater**, 10 – 11:30 am. Plant and care for your own pumpkin either at Sonnenberg's Children's Garden or your own. Pumpkins will be eligible to compete in the Children's Pumpkin Contest (September 21) for the largest, weirdest, or most beautiful pumpkin. Free members; \$10 non-members. Registration required. **SG**

S- May 18: Spring Garden Gala, 10 am – 1 pm. Featuring indoor and outdoor plants, geraniums, auction, free soil pH testing and gardening advice by Master Gardeners. Cornell Cooperative Extension Genesee County, 420 East Main Street, Batavia. 585/343-3040 x101.

May 18 – 19: Upstate New York Bonsai Exhibition & Sale. Presented by Bonsai Society of Upstate New York. \$5. Monroe Community Hospital, corner Westfall & East Henrietta Roads. 585/334-2595; bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org.

May 18 – 19: Linwood Tree Peony Festival of Flowers, 10 am – 4 pm. See description under May 11 – 12. \$8; \$12 guided tour. **LIN**

May 18 – 19: Ikebana Display & Demonstration, 10 am – 5 pm. Presented by Ikebana International Chapter 53, in conjunction with *Upstate New York*

- Bonsai Exhibition & Sale* (above). Three Teacher Ikebana demonstration, 2 pm, Sunday. \$5. Monroe Community Hospital, corner Westfall & East Henrietta Roads.
- May 18 – 19: Spring Open House & Sale**, 10 am – 5 pm. Displays, bonsai, supplies and unusual plants for sale. **IBA**
- **May 19: Succulents Container Workshop**, 2 – 4 pm. Learn how to combine succulents and other compatible plants into long-lasting container gardens. Bring your own container or purchase before class. Includes soil, help, work space and short slide show for inspiration. Kids welcome accompanied by an adult. Registration required. **WAY**
- May 21: Plant a Victory Garden and Preserve Your Bountiful Harvest**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Audrey Deane will provide gardening tips, information on varieties to grow or buy, methods of preserving and recipe guides, as well as a few peppers, herbs and tomatoes to plant in your own garden. \$25 members; \$30 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- May 22: Create a Container Garden**, 6 pm. Master Gardeners will help participants create a container garden. Bring your own container, 14 inches across maximum. Potting soil & selection of annual plants provided. \$25. Registration required by May 15. Genesee County Fair Grounds, Kennedy Building, Route 5, Batavia. Cornell Cooperative Extension Genesee County; 585/343-3040 x101.
- May 23: Purposeful Perennials – Using Perennials in Containers**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Garden designer and writer Christine Froehlich will present a slide lecture and discuss the many varieties of perennials she has successfully used in containers and then reused in gardens she has designed. Lists of perennials that work well in different situations will be provided. \$22 members; \$32 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- S- May 25: Proud Market Plant Sale**, 8 am. Shop all manner of plants, many of them unusual or hard to find, from garden clubs and small independent plant specialists. Perennials, shrubs, trees, annuals and vegetables. **RCGC**
- S- May 25: Rochester Dahlia Society Plant Sale**, 8 am – 12 pm. Dahlia plants and tubers. *Proud Market Plant Sale* (above), Rochester Civic Garden Center, 5 Castle Park, Rochester.
- **May 25: Children's Program – Planting the Vegetable Garden**, 9 – 11:30 am. All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring tools and gloves. Free. **SG**
- May 25 – 26: Linwood Tree Peony Festival of Flowers**, 10 am – 4 pm. See description under May 11 – 12. \$8; \$12 guided tour. **LIN**
- S- May 26: Rochester Dahlia Society Plant Sale**, 7 am – 1 pm. Dahlia plants and tubers. *Flower City Days at the Market* (above), Rochester Public Market, 280 North Union Street, Rochester.
- May 27: Memorial Tree Walk**, 2 pm. 2 hours, 1 mile. Meet: Museum parking lot. **LET**
- June 1: Odyssey to Ithaca**, 7:45 am – 6:30 pm. Travel by motor coach to visit Cornell Plantations, Bedlam's display gardens, shop at family-owned garden centers Cayuga Landscaping, Baker's Acres & The Plantsmen Nursery. Lunch included. Bus departs Marketplace Mall, Henrietta. \$60. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 1 – 2: Peony Weekend**, 10 am – 4 pm. Ellwanger Garden, 625 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester. **LDMK**
- June 2: Iris Show**, 1 – 4 pm. *The Music of Iris*. Presented by Greater Rochester Iris Society. Marketplace Mall, Miracle Mile Drive, Rochester. 585/599-3502; eschnell@rochester.rr.com.
- June 4: Summer Container Workshop**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Join Deb VerHulst-Norris at her scenic lakefront property in Hilton for this hands-on workshop. Deb will discuss the principles of a balanced and interesting design, care and maintenance, and guide participants in planting a container garden to take home that will look good all season. Bring a pot of 16" diameter or less; potting soil and plants appropriate for sun or shade provided. \$30 members; \$35 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 4 & 6: Advanced Floral Design Certificate – Sympathy Arrangements**, 6:30 – 9 pm. Alana Miller will focus on free-standing easel sprays, large one-sided arrangements for visitation, and altar, religious, and theme wreaths. Students will take home all arrangements created during class. Prerequisite: *Intermediate Professional Floral Design* program or floral shop experience. \$150 members; \$225 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 5: Flower Drying Workshop**, 7 – 9 pm. Floral designer Alana Miller will explore techniques for drying flowers. Using flowers provided, or bring your own, participants will prepare them in a drying bed to take home. Materials provided. \$28 members; \$38 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 6 – 9: International Bonsai Colloquium**. Lectures, demonstrations, workshops, sales, special 50th Anniversary exhibition of William N. Valavanis. Registration and fees. Holiday Inn Rochester Airport, 911 Brooks Avenue, Rochester. 585/334-2595.
- T- June 8 – 9: Landmark Society House & Garden Tour**, 10 am – 4 pm. **LDMK**
- June 10: Roses & Rosés**, 6 pm - sunset. Featuring wine and food pairings, live music, silent auction. \$25 individual; \$45 couple until May 28. \$30 individual; \$55 couple after May 28. **SG**
- June 10: Low Maintenance, Long-Blooming Gardening with Wayside's Favorites**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Trish Gannon of Wayside Garden Center will highlight annual, perennial, shrub and tree choices for low maintenance and long bloom. Learn about new varieties as well as old favorites. Optional tour through the garden center, Trish will answer questions and make recommendations. Registration required. **RCGC**
- June 11: Butterflies and the Plants They Need**, 9 am. Wesley Hill Preserve, Naples. Meet: Park and Ride, Bushnell's Basin Exit I-490. Group will car pool. Bring lunch. 585/425-2380. **RBC**
- June 11: Living Wreath Workshop**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Sue Lang and Sheryl Roets of Gallea's Greenhouses will guide participants as they create a wreath of living plants. Choose from an assortment of succulents, flowering and foliage plants. Materials included. \$65. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 12: Tour Unusual Woody Ornamentals at Holmes Hollow Farm**, 6 – 7:30. Andrew Fowler will guide a tour of the landscape surrounding his and wife Barbara Holmes's home plus answer any questions people might have in the nursery which specializes in some unusual trees and shrubs. \$18 members; \$25 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 13: Landscape Improvement 101 – Making the Most of What We've Got**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Landscape consultant Christine Froehlich will discuss the process of identifying and solving design problems including taking inventory of what you already have, drawing up a design plan, correcting plant siting problems, selecting new plants appropriate for the site and using existing plants more dynamically. \$22 members; \$32 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 14 – July 26: Botanical Drawing**. 6 Fridays, 9 am – 12 pm. Deb VerHulst-Norris, a horticulturist with a B.S. in Fine Arts, will teach participants to draw plants and flowers in accurate detail. Drawing skills will be developed by closely observing the structure and textures of the plants and flowers. Class will explore the use of graphite pencils, with colored pencil added to give depth and definition to drawings. No previous experience needed. \$99 members; \$120 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 15: Summer Pruning**, 9 am – 12 pm. Learn how to properly prune flowering trees and shrubs as well as broadleaf evergreens and conifers in this outdoor workshop with Mike Tanzini of Ted Collins Tree & Landscape. Prerequisite: *Pruning I: The Basics* or similar pruning class. \$36 members; \$46 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- S- June 15: Garden Market**, 9 am – 5 pm. In conjunction with *Greece Performing Arts Society Garden Tour* (below). Vendors, plant sale, live music, refreshments. Free. Greece Historical Society, 595 Long Pond Road, Greece.
- June 15: Gardening Under Black Walnut Trees**, 10 am or 2:30 pm. Walk-around garden talk led by Master Gardener John Norvell. \$5. Registration required. 227 West Avenue, Canandaigua. **CCE/ONT**
- T- June 15: Garden Tour – Yards and Gardens**, 10 am – 4 pm. Sponsored by Greece Performing Arts Society. Tour 6 gardens in Greece, enjoy light refreshments, live music, visual artists. \$15 advance; \$20 day of, available at: Frear's Garden Center, Green Acre Farm and Nursery, Rockcastle Florist, VanPutte Gardens.
- June 17: Topiary Workshop**, 7 – 9 pm. Floral designer Alana Miller will demonstrate constructing a wire frame, planting and training topiary, and will guide participants in creating a container specimen to take home. Materials included. \$75 members; \$85 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- June 18: Create a Container Herb Garden**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Sue Lang and Sheryl Roets of Gallea's Greenhouses will guide participants in planting a decorative container with a selection of herbs and flowering plants. Materials included. \$40. Preregistration required. **RCGC**
- T- June 19: Garden Tour**, 3 – 8 pm. *Great Gardens of Wayne County*. Tour gardens in the Palmyra/Macedon area. Presented by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County Master Gardeners. \$10. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County, 1581 Route 88 North, Newark. 315/331-8415; counties.cce.cornell.edu/wayne.
- June 19: Chickens in the Garden**, 6:30 – 8 pm. Mary Cropley will cover coop design and construction, choosing a breed, rearing baby chicks, feeding and watering the flock and keeping them safe from predators. See how chickens can be integrated into the home landscape and meet some friendly birds in their garden home. \$18 mem-

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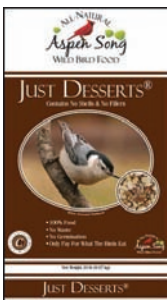
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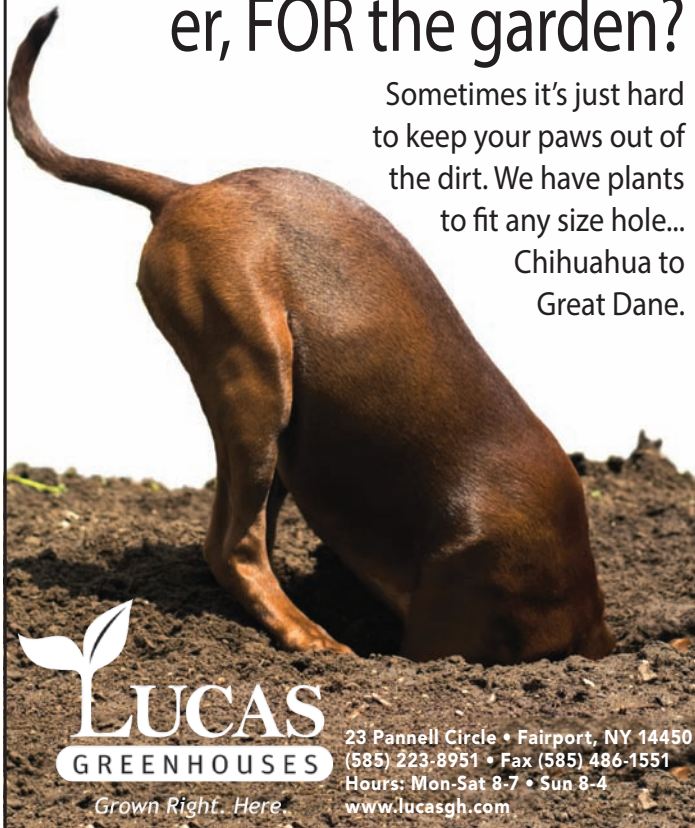
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KEY EVENTS

Roses & Rosés - Wine & Food Pairing Event: June 10

Father's Day Car Cruise: June 16

Moonlight Stroll Concert Series: July 5, 12, 19, 26 & Aug. 2

Thursday Teas: August 1, 8, 15, & 22

Italian Night: August 9

Arts at the Gardens: August 17 & 18

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Natural Gardening Symposium featuring Keynote Speaker Ken Druse on October 5



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Calendar

ROCHESTER continued

bers; \$25 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

June 20: Low-Maintenance Trees and Shrubs to Jazz up Your Landscape, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Designer and RCGC director Christine Froehlich will provide inspiration and information in this slide-lecture as she explores the variety of textures and colors offered by ornamental shrubs. \$22 members; \$32 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

T- June 22: Backyard Habitat Garden Tour, 9 am – 4 pm. Self-paced, self-guided. Featured gardens in Rochester, Penfield, Pittsford, Fairport and along the shore of Lake Ontario. Learn how you can attract and protect wildlife. \$12 members; \$15 non-members. **GLT**

June 22: Discover New & Improved Plant Varieties in Your Own Garden, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Michael Hannen will show images of new varieties he has selected from natural crosses and sports in his gardens, discuss how to select the best, separate them from the parent variety, grow them on, and then go through the 3-year process of verifying stability of the improvement before promoting the plant to growers. Class will move to Michael's home-based nursery to see how his selections have progressed over one or more years. \$22 members; \$32 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

June 25: June Flower of the Month – the Rose, 7 – 9 pm. Alana Miller will explore the characteristics and proper handling of roses in floral design as she guides participants in using massed roses and ivy to create a romantic arrangement encircling a container. Students will learn a new way of securing flowers to extend their freshness. Materials included. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

June 26: Butterflies and the Plants They Need, 10 am. Black Creek Park. Meet: Byrne Dairy, corner Union Street & Chili Ave. Group will car pool. Bring lunch. 585/385-4725. **RBC**

June 26: Soirée – Visit a Southwestern Landscape in Webster, 6:30 – 8 pm. Enjoy Leslie Arduser-Brogan's extensive collection of southwestern plants complemented by innovative pathways and perfectly placed eclectic garden art and sculpture as well her large perennial garden including more than 260 daylilies, over 130 hostas and many artistic touches. \$12. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

June 27: Hydrangea serrata Tour – Explore a Lesser-Known Species, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Native to the mountains of Japan and Korea, most *H. serrata* have smaller blue or pink lacecap blooms, displayed in a graceful, almost architectural form and they generally bloom earlier than macropyllas and paniculatas. Join Tim Boebel for this tour of his extensive collection of hydrangeas, including over 30 *serrata* cultivars. \$18 members; \$23 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

T- June 30: Garden Tour - Simplicity, 11 am – 5 pm. Presented by the Garden Club of Brockport. Visit gardens in the Brockport area. Refreshments and Chinese auction at the Farmers' Museum. Tickets available June 1: Sara's Garden Center, Lift Bridge Book Store & Kirby's Farm Market.

June 30: Daylily Garden Open House, 1 – 5 pm. Cobbs Hill Daylily Garden (a National Display Garden), Charlie and Judy Zettek, 1 Hillside Avenue, Rochester. 585/461-3317.

July 9: Butterflies and the Plants They Need, 10 am. Mendon area Mystery Tour.

Meet: Visitors Center parking lot, Pond Road. Group will explore the butterfly garden then car pool to other areas. 585/425-2380. **RBC**

July 10: Daylily Garden Open House, 5 – 7 pm. Cobbs Hill Daylily Garden (a National Display Garden), Charlie and Judy Zettek, 1 Hillside Avenue, Rochester. 585/461-3317.

July 10: Could Farmers' Markets Be Your Future?, 6:30 – 8 pm. Jarmila Haseler, Market Specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension, will talk about the science behind successful farmers' markets and how people become active and valid components in their success. Free. Advance registration requested. **RCGC**

July 11: July Flower of the Month – the Lily, 7 – 9 pm. Alana Miller will discuss characteristics and proper handling of lilies in floral design. Students will be guided in exploring the use of natural armatures for support as they create a contemporary arrangement with fresh lilies. Materials included. \$40 members; \$50 non-members. Preregistration required. **RCGC**

T- July 13: RCGC Summer Garden Tour: To the Beach and Beyond – Gardens of Sodus Point, 10 am – 6 pm. Explore nine gardens including a historic stone lake house with beds of perennials, shrubs and ornamental grasses; an artist's 'Margaritaville'-themed beachfront garden; a 40-acre property with a labyrinth that takes the phrase 'outdoor living' to new heights; a perfect view of the lake from the porch of a cottage appropriately surrounded by cottage gardens; the Sodus Point Lighthouse and the visitors' center downtown. Advance: \$15 members; \$20 non-members. Day of: \$20 all. **RCGC**

July 14: Daylily Garden Open House, 1 – 5 pm. Cobbs Hill Daylily Garden (a National Display Garden), Charlie and Judy Zettek, 1 Hillside Avenue, Rochester. 585/461-3317.

SYRACUSE

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

African Violet Society of Syracuse meets the second Thursday of the month, September – May, Pitcher Hill Community Church, 605 Bailey Road, North Syracuse. 315/492-2562; kgarb@twcny.rr.com; avsofsyracuse.org.

Central New York Orchid Society meets the first Sunday of the month, September – May, St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Road, Baldwinsville. Dates may vary due to holidays. 315/633-2437; cnyos.org.

Gardeners of Syracuse meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Enter from Melrose Avenue. 315/464-0051.

Gardeners in Thyme (a women's herb club) meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville. 315/635-6481; hbaker@twcny.rr.com.

Habitat Gardening Club of CNY (HGCNY) meets the last Sunday of most months at 2 pm, Liverpool Public Library. HGCNY is a chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes; for-wild.org. Meetings are free and open to the public. 315/487-5742; hgcny.org.

Koi and Water Garden Society of Central New

York usually meets the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. See web site for meeting locations. 315/458-3199; cnykoi.com.

Syracuse Rose Society meets the second Thursday of every month (except December and February) at 7 pm. Public welcome. Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Enter from Melrose Avenue. Club members maintain the E. M. Mills Memorial Rose Garden, Thornden Park, Syracuse. crbma@aol.com; syracuserosesociety.org.

Williamson Garden Club. On-going community projects; free monthly lectures to educate the community about gardening. Open to all. 315/524-4204. grow14589@gmail.com; grow-thewilliamsongardenclub.blogspot.com.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BWNC: Baltimore Woods Nature Center, 4007 Bishop Hill Road, Marcellus, NY. 315/673-1350; baltimorewoods.org.

CCE/ONE: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Oneida County, 121 Second Street, Oriskany. 736/3394 x125; counties.cce.cornell.edu/Oneida.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

May 8: Gardening for Monarchs and Other Butterflies, 6:30 pm. Learn how to create a Monarch way station as well as how to provide for the needs of other butterflies. Presented by Janet Allen of Habitat Gardening in Central New York. Free. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip Street, Liverpool.

May 11: Weekend Wildflower Walk, 2 – 3 pm. Join caretaker Audrey Loewer for a walk through the woodland wildflower garden. Each week new species will bloom, Audrey will reveal their medicinal and culinary uses. Garden is handicap accessible, call ahead if assistance is needed. Donations appreciated. **BWNC**

T- May 12: Mother's Day Garden Tour at Sycamore Hill Gardens, 11 am – 4 pm. Enjoy over 30 acres of landscaped gardens and ponds with over 500,000 flowering bulbs and 700 flowering trees and shrubs. Proceeds benefit Baltimore Woods. \$5 through May 4; \$10 after. Sycamore Hill Gardens, 2130 Old Seneca Turnpike, Marcellus. **BWNC**

May 12: Weekend Wildflower Walk, 2 – 3 pm. See description under May 11. **BWNC**

S- May 18: Plant Sale, 8 am – 2 pm. *Plantasia*. Shrubs, perennials, annuals, herbs, many native plants. Regional vendors, garden and nature related items. Garden volunteers and master gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension Onondaga County will be on-hand to offer gardening advice. Rain or shine. Free. **BWNC**

May 22: Berries in the Home Garden, 6 – 8 pm. Topics will range from selecting berry crops for season-long enjoyment to maintaining established plantings, managing weeds, diseases, pests and wildlife. Plus an in-depth look at establishing strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and blueberries, along with a review of home berry gardener resources. \$10. Registration required. **CCE/ONE**

Ongoing Last Week of May through August: **Pick Your Own Lavender**, 10 am – 5 pm. Over 2000 plants, 20 different varieties. Lockwood Lavender Farm, 1682 West Lake Road, Skaneateles. 315/685-5369; lockwoodfarm@aol.com; lockwoodfarm.blogspot.com.

June 13: Save a Butterfly, 7 pm. Learn how to create a Monarch way station as well as how to provide for the needs of other butterflies. Presented by Janet Allen of Habitat Gardening in Central New York. Free. Registration requested. DeWitt Community Library, Shoppingtown Mall, 3649 Erie Boulevard East, Syracuse.

S- June 22: Herb & Flower Festival, 9 am – 3:30 pm. Vendors. Classes covering beneficial insects, container gardening, herbs, growing berries, ornamental grasses, growing natives. Parker F. Scripture Botanical Gardens. \$3 donation. **CCE/ ONE**

July 13 – 14: Finger Lakes Lavender Festival. Lockwood Lavender Farm, 1682 West Lake Road, Skaneateles. 315/685-5369; lockwoodfarm@aol.com; lockwoodfarm.blogspot.com.

& BEYOND

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

FREQUENT HOSTS

KING: The King's Garden at Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, NY. 518/585-2821; fortcond-eroga.org.

PINE: Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, the best remaining example in the world of an inland pine barrens. 195 New Karner Road, Albany, NY. 518/456-0655; albanypinebush.org.

May 12: Wildflower Walk, 10 am – 12 pm. Guided one-mile hike over rolling topography. \$3 individual; \$5 family. Registration required. **PINE**

S- May 18: Spring Plant Sale, 10 am – 2 pm. Enjoy the first blooms of the season while browsing the many perennials available within the garden walls. Staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and dig selections. **KING**

May 25 – October 14: Visit the King's Garden. Tour the restored 1920's Colonial Revival King's Garden, the site of the original Fort Garrison Garden. The King's Garden celebrates the Pell family's commitment to preservation and agriculture at Fort Ticonderoga for nearly two centuries. Take in the Discovery Gardens and lake vistas of Fort Ticonderoga's landscape. **KING**

May 27: Lupine Walk, 1 – 2:30 pm. Guided hike over rolling terrain to explore Karner Blue butterfly habitat and discover wild blue lupine. \$3 individual; \$5 family. Registration required. **PINE**

June 1: Lupine Walk, 11 am – 12:30 pm. See description under May 27. \$3 individual; \$5 family. Registration required. **PINE**

June 4: Planning & Planting the Medicinal Herb Garden, 2:30 – 4 pm. Join local herbalist Nancy Scarzello to plan and plant the herb garden for the season. Nancy will cover plant placement, which plants do best from seed, how to make divisions, retail sources for herb seeds and plants. Rain date: June 5. \$15 members; \$20 non-members. Registration required. **KING**

July 5: Herb Harvesting Demonstration, 10:30 am. Gardeners will discuss the plants in the herb garden, their uses, and explain how to harvest different types. Visitors are encouraged to touch, smell, and taste as well as help in the harvest. **KING**

• **July 9: Growing up with Gardening: Sow, Grow & Know**, 10:30 am. Ages 3-8. **KING**

• **July 9: Sky High Hollyhocks.** Kids learn how to make old-fashioned hollyhock dolls (boys and girls) from fresh-picked blooms. Hollyhock seeds and growing instructions. **KING**

July 12: Herb Harvesting Demonstration, 10:30 am. See description under July 5. **KING**

July 14: Garden Party. Enjoy live music, food and good company within the walls of the King's Garden. Advance reservation required. MStrum@fort-ticonderoga.org; 518/585-2821 x226. **KING**

Deadline for Calendar Listings for the next issue (July-August) is Friday, June 14, 2013.

Please send your submissions to deb@upstategardenersjournal.com.

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Real food on the road

by Christina Le Beau



Summertime. When the living is easy, road trips entice, and that road is paved with fast food and greasy spoons. What to do, what to do.

As a longtime vegetarian, I've been bringing food on the road for years, if only a few bananas and granola bars to get me through the gauntlet of golden arches. When we started traveling with a child, though, I needed to think bigger (and beyond the dreaded kids' menu). Which is why I now spend more time packing food than clothes.

I don't go crazy with perishables, since we restock along the way, but it's nice to have a small reserve. Typical fare: carrot sticks and red pepper strips, clementines, grapes and apples (pre-washed), cut cheese, hummus, nut butter and whole-grain wraps. Maybe cherry tomatoes and sugar snap peas if they're in season. Then it's things like nuts, seeds, raisins, other dried and freeze-dried fruit, trail mix, popcorn, granola bars, whole-grain crackers and unsweetened applesauce cups.

For quick in-room breakfasts, I pack granola, unsweetened oatmeal packets and honey, and whole-grain bagels. Also milk or yogurt if we'll have a fridge. Basically, I bring a variety of things to serve as snacks and small meals. Plus a small cutting board and knife, utensils, plates, baggies and the like. I don't pack for

the apocalypse. We have only so much room in the car, plus part of the fun of road trips is discovering local groceries, farmers' markets and farmstands along the way.

Sometimes those groceries and farmstands just pop up on the horizon, so we try to take full advantage when they do. Other times we go looking for them, which is when books like "Healthy Highways" come in handy. The book is geared toward vegetarians, but really it's for anyone trying to eat better on the road. Organized by city within each state, it lists natural-food stores, as well as whole-food, organic and ethnic eateries. Each entry has full contact info, plus a highway exit number and driving directions. And you can get updates through the website.

Local Harvest (www.localharvest.org) and the Eat Well Guide (www.eatwellguide.org) are web directories that let you search by zip, city or state to find stores, farmers' markets and restaurants selling local, sustainable and organic food, either before you leave or, if you're traveling wired, on the road. I also check the Edible Communities (www.ediblecommunities.com) publication for areas we'll be visiting. Farmers' markets are worth finding not only for the food — on one trip we managed an in-room meal of market salad greens, cheese and sweet potatoes cooked in the microwave — but also because they're attractions in their own right.

Of course there are times we just want to sit and let someone else do the work. So we check restaurant listings in "Healthy Highways" or online, or ask someone for a recommendation. I also like the mobile app AroundMe for finding nearby restaurants in a pinch. It's amazing how often there's whole-food fare just a couple miles off the highway. But if all else fails, we do what road-trippers have done for generations: pick a place that looks good and hope for the best.

Christina Le Beau lives in Rochester. She blogs about raising food-literate kids at www.spoonfedblog.net. A version of this essay originally appeared on Spoonfed.

ABOVE: Farmstand bounty. Photo courtesy flickr: comprock



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