



Volume 11/1, Winter 2014 Garden Leaflet

Art in the Garden

The walls and hall of the Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion have been transformed into an art gallery! We've displayed the wonderful photography of Robert McDuffie since the pavilion was opened. Diane Relf, local artist and Horticulture Professor Emeritus, brainstormed with Stephanie Huckestein on the potential of displaying work by other artists. A committee of local artists who all have an interest in the Hahn Garden was put together with Diane serving as Chair, along with Paula Golden, Linda Fielder, Martha Olsen, Susan Lockwood, and Nancy Norton; Stephanie Huckestein and Holly Scoggins serve as garden liaisons. Guidelines were developed, such as the art must have a nature/environment-related theme. Display artists can sell their works, with the Garden receiving a 20-25% commission. We hosted five different exhibits in 2013 and six more are scheduled for 2014. We thank Diane for her vision and leadership. For more information about Art in the Garden and to see information about the current artist and exhibit, visit our web site www.hort.vt.edu/hhg/artinthegarden.



"Along the Garden Path." Quilt by Blacksburg artist Paula Golden. Her work was on display this summer.

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Art in the Garden Shows for 2014

Jan/Feb	Knic Ulmstead	Oil/Watercolor
Mar/April	Prof Z.L. Feng & students	Watercolor
May/June	Susan Brittingham	Quilts
July/August	Charlotte Chan	Watercolor
Sept/Oct	To Be Determined	TBD
Nov/Dec	Darcy Meeker	Copper/Mixed Media



An April group show and opening reception filled the Pavilion with art, artists, and fans!
Photo by Dave Angle.

Notes from the Director

From events to projects, things were non-stop here in 2013! There are stories elsewhere in the Garden Leaflet on several of them. On the garden features front, the dry stone creekbed that runs the length of the Meadow Garden was completed. This is an aesthetic addition, with artfully arranged rocks, river gravel, and native perennials planted along the margin. It's also functional, directing runoff from rain into a gently curving, momentum-slowing pattern as it flows down the hill into the storm drain.

We've opened up several areas of the shade garden – many woody specimens had exceeded the space provided and things were getting...dense. Woody Plants Curator Dr. Alex Niemiera gave his blessing to remove or relocate some shrubs and trees that weren't teaching specimens. Clearing up the understory has really brightened things up, and provided space for more perennials, smaller shrubs, and groundcovers.

There will be a brand-new feature in the works for 2014 – an Edible Landscape Garden. A portion of garden next to the Xeric area was cleared and will focus on trialing “woody edibles.” Plants acquired thus far include figs, hardy pomegranate, persimmons, and more. This garden is funded by the Virginia Agricultural Council – a group that has been tremendously supportive of research in the Department of Horticulture. Dr. Niemiera's proposal to them was to establish a prototype garden, trialing the performance of shrubs, trees, and vines that can balance ornamental value with “edible-ness”. A path system and patio designed by Lisa Lipsey will provide access and a focal point for this exciting new garden.

In that same area along the small parking lot, the gray wooden, vine-covered structures were replaced by dramatic new panels. The structures were designed by Horticulture faculty member Robert McDuffie and installed by his Landscape Construction Practicum class with the help of Paul Chumbley and garden workers. Metal mesh will soon meet the panels and provide a structure for vines to grow as well as screening the view of the greenhouse complex and parking lot.

Our two main events for the year were the 9th annual Garden Gala (page 3) and the 3rd biennial Down and Dirty Garden Symposium. The August 23 symposium celebrated “Men in the Garden.” Our three speakers had very unique topics and styles, yet meshed well. Jimmy Turner, then Director of Horticulture for the Dallas Arboretum and



New panels along Garden Lane help screen the view of the parking lot and greenhouses.

now with the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, was simply a hoot, with a non-stop commentary on hot new plants heavily seasoned with deep-South humor. Anyone attending will agree Joseph Tychonievich of Arrowhead Alpines is an up-and-coming star with his fascinating and fact-filled talks on plant breeding and rock garden plants. Bryce Lane of NC State topped off our day with thoughtful reflections on his own trials, tribulations, and successes in home gardening.

Finally, a small but nice improvement has been the upgrade of our printed information from my previous attempts at desk-top publishing. I've worked with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Media Office to design and print the Garden Guide and Membership form. Stephanie has a facility rental/wedding guide in the works. And Sarah Gugercin,

of our own Department of Horticulture, designed this lovely Garden Leaflet!

I can never, ever thank enough those who give to the Garden - gifts of cash and stock, Friends of the Garden members, plant sale shoppers, workshop and seminar attendees, gala sponsors, guests, and auction item contributors. Nurseries and other businesses that provide in-kind donations such as products and services are also wonderfully helpful - and none more so than those individuals that give the gift of their time.

As always, check out our website for updates on events, garden features, and more – www.hort.vt.edu/hhg. From ALL of us at the garden, our best wishes to you and yours for a happy, healthy, and gardening-filled New Year!

– Dr. Holly Scoggins, Garden Director and Associate Professor, Horticulture (to reach Holly, email perennials@vt.edu or call 540-231-5783).





The Annual Garden Gala

The 9th Annual Garden Gala was a terrific success, with “Wine & Roses” galore. Chef Mark Baldwin of Blue Ridge Catering took it over the top with fantastic food – the international food and wine pairing stations were a big hit with our 200+ guests. Barbara Leshyn’s wonderful floral arrangements adorned the tables. Exciting “auction action” ensued as a number of gala guests really stepped up the bidding. All in all, we raised more than \$15,000 for the garden.

Mark your calendar for June 14th, 2014 for the 10th annual Garden Gala. Ask anyone who’s attended - it’s seriously the most fun you can have at a fundraiser; fabulous food and drinks, entertainment, marvelous items at auction, and more, all in a gorgeous garden setting. We’ve enjoyed the support of our alumni and friends since the very first Gala – please join us for this very important fundraising event on our 10th anniversary! The Garden operates on gifts, memberships, funds raised by special events, and facility rentals. These dollars help with equipment purchase and maintenance, new plants, garden renovations, student wages, and more. Gala Sponsorships start at \$300 (Bronze) up to \$2000 (Corporate Platinum) and come with complimentary tickets. It’s a great way to show your support for the impact Virginia Tech Horticulture and the Hahn Garden makes as we provide hands-on training for future green industry professionals as well as education for youth and adults in the community. And to our past sponsors, auction item donors, and attendees – a huge “thank you!” We hope to see you again in June!



2013 Gala honorary guest hosts, Forrest and Linda Fiedler. The Fiedlers have been garden volunteers since 1993.

2013 Gala Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

Aztec Rental Center, Inc., Blacksburg, Va., www.aztecrental.com

Bennett’s Creek Nursery, Inc. - Wayne Sawyer, Suffolk, Va., www.bcnursery.com

Jeff Francis - Moneta, Va.

Grigg Design, Inc. - Steve and Juanita Grigg, Manassas Park, Va., www.gdiva.com

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TreesPlease® - Ed Milhous, Arborist, Haymarket, Va., www.treesplease.com

Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association - Jeff Miller, Exec. Director, www.vnla.org

Silver Sponsors

Blue Ridge PBS, Roanoke, Va. - www.blueridgePBS.org

In honor of Catawba Landcare - www.catawbalandcare.org (anonymous contributor)

Warren and Margie Kark - Christiansburg, Va.

Dr. Robert E. Lyons - Director, Univ. Delaware & Longwood Gardens Graduate Program in Public Horticulture, Newark, Del., www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad

James River Nurseries, Inc. - Mike and Susie Hildebrand, Ashland, Va., www.jamesrivernurseries.com

Jane and Robert O’Keeffe - Pilot, Va.

Shreckhise Nurseries - Matt Shreckhise, Grottoes, Va., www.shreckhise.com

Bronze Sponsors

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Matthew Sensabaugh - Staunton, Va.

Shreckhise Nurseries, Inc. - Grottoes, Va., www.shreckhise.com

“Solanaceae” Friends of the Gala - New River Valley

Paul and Sonya Westervelt - Arrington, Va.

Al and Ann Yousten - Blacksburg, Va.

Save the Date!

The 10th Annual Garden Gala

Hahn Horticulture Garden at Virginia Tech

June 14, 2014 – 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Gala invitations and sponsorship letters will be mailed out in April. Ticket request and sponsorship forms will also be available at www.hort.vt.edu/hhg

Garden Interns- Summer 2013

Our interns help us so much during the busy summer season; in turn we are proud to provide a well-rounded public garden internship experience. This summer's interns were Horticulture students Allyssa Mark and Izak Khani. Their experience ranged from helping with special events, tours, volunteer sessions, and youth camp to planting display beds and training in the "irrigation arts." At the end of the internship, they were rewarded with an all-expenses paid trip to the Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association Field Day and Summer Tour in Williamsburg. Allyssa was the *M. Evan Gardener Intern* and is a senior in both Landscape Contracting and Environmental Horticulture. Her career plans include agricultural education and extension. Izak is a senior in Environmental Horticulture with a minor in Entomology; he hopes to attend graduate school in Entomology. He held the *Mike and Susie Hildebrand Landscape Internship* and continued to work with the garden throughout the fall. Thanks to both of these outstanding HORT students for their hard work and dedication!



2013 Summer Interns Izak Khani and Allyssa Mark.

Volunteers

Imagine a crew of experienced, enthusiastic gardeners showing up in your yard once a week asking "what can we do to help?" Yes, it is a WONDERFUL thing. Volunteers have played an important role in maintaining the gardens over the years. Some of our current volunteers such as Linda and Forrest Fiedler, and Marge and Tom Teates, have been helping since the early 90's. Our evening volunteer sessions span two to three hours and are held every Monday during late spring, summer, and early fall (daylight savings time) with the exception of University/State holidays. The number of helpers that show up at each session range from ten to twenty-plus. With a conservative estimate of 900 total hours this season at the current Virginia Average Hourly Value of Volunteer Time (\$24.64) – we're talking \$22,000 worth of gardening help.

Sometimes one big project is tackled, such as planting out annuals; other evenings present a range of maintenance tasks from weeding to deadheading. If it's a warm evening, Allan Bame makes the rounds distributing refreshing popsicles. We all take turns as "host", with Paul and Lisa leading most of the sessions when classes are in. The "Monday Night Gang" has been a fairly consistent core for the past few years, but are always welcoming to new folks. Every autumn, we (garden faculty and staff) host a volunteer appreciation dinner, and the group also has dinners and gatherings on their own. While we may be able to estimate a dollar figure for our volunteer's time, their enthusiasm, energy and support are PRICELESS!



Hahn Horticulture Garden Volunteers, October 14, 2013.

Congratulations to our 2013 Certified Junior Master Gardeners!



Another terrific group of children gained their Junior Master Gardener Certification! The program is quite intensive and requires a great deal of commitment, but these 11 young gardeners were dedicated to becoming Certified Junior Master Gardeners. The group met on Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. for 12 weeks in the spring, and 12 weeks in the fall. They completed a total of 88 activities and 8 service projects. They grew their own vegetables and donated a bountiful harvest to Share the Spare. This was a terrific group of kids! They were very engaged and eager to learn! The program is modeled after the Cooperative Extension Master Gardener program and the kids learn much of the same information. Topics covered include: Plant Growth and Development, Soils and Water, Ecology and Environmental Horticulture, Insects and Diseases, Landscape Horticulture, Fruits and Nuts, Vegetables and Herbs, and Life Skills and Career Exploration. A big "THANK YOU" to our very dedicated volunteers that help with the JMG program!



Back row: Hettie, Laura, Alexis, John Cole, Cato, Erik, and Ava. Front row (kneeling): Abby, Abigail, Natalie, and Emma.

Wild About Gardening! Summer Half Day Camp for youth ages 5-7 was held July 15-19. The theme of the day was always related to gardening for wildlife and included lessons, active play, and hands-on activities. -Stephanie Huckestein, Education and Outreach Coordinator



Half Day Camp: we are WILD about gardening!



JMG and Youth Summer Camps are a partnership of Montgomery County 4-H and the Hahn Horticulture Garden.

Garden Director:
Dr. Holly Scoggins

Education & Outreach Coordinator:
Stephanie Huckestein

Horticulturists:
Paul Chumbley and Lisa Lipsey

Woody Plant Curator:
Dr. Alex Niemiera

Dept. Head, Horticulture:
Dr. Roger Harris

Newsletter Content:
Holly Scoggins, unless otherwise noted

Newsletter Design:
Sarah Gugercin

The Hahn Horticulture Garden is located on Washington Street on the campus of Virginia Tech

Phone: 540.231-5970
Email: vtgarden@vt.edu
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Mailing address:
Hahn Horticulture Garden
200 Garden Lane (0915)
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061

If you'd rather not receive this publication or event updates via email, please contact us by phone or email- it won't hurt our feelings (well, maybe a little bit).

Ahhh, Hydrangeas

By Lisa Lipsey, Horticulturist

With an eye for securing the newest and the best, a number of weeks ago I began checking on available woody plants for the Hort Club's 2014 spring plant sale. Beginning alphabetically with *Abelia*, moving past *Cephalotaxus* and *Cercis*, to *Deutzia* and *Edgeworthia*, my excitement was building - on to *Gardenia* (yes, we'll have the most cold hardy variety to date, 'Summer Snow', highly fragrant, double white flowers) and then my mind but not my enthusiasm came to a screeching halt at the genus *Hydrangea*. A seemingly endless number of varieties with species and subspecies, many with nonsensical cultivar names in quotes, names with no quotes, series names included or not with all the other names, and I became increasingly more confused. I needed some organization to the madness of so many choices, and answers to age old questions like when do I prune my hydrangea, how do I "make" blue flowers instead of pink, and why are there so many new varieties being introduced. So, I began to do a little research, and hope what follows will get you excited about some older *Hydrangea* varieties that are great garden plants as well as some of the newer ones that are distinctly different from anything before. And of course, we'll try to get them all for The Plant Sale!

I think it very interesting that the word *Hydrangea* refers not to the magnificent flowers that most of the time determine our gardening choices but to the tiny, largely unnoticed seed capsules. *Hydrangea* comes from the Greek words hydor, meaning water, and aggeion, meaning receptacle. After the seed capsule has sprung open, it resembles the shape of an ancient water carrying vessel.

According to the U.S. National Arboretum, there are approximately 23 species of *Hydrangea* with only four shrub species widely cultivated in the United States. They are *H. macrophylla*, *H. paniculata*, *H. arborescens* and *H. quercifolia*. There are of course other species available, one of which we'll have for the plant sale but will keep secret for now.

Still the most popular is *Hydrangea macrophylla* commonly known by a variety of names - French, florist's, bigleaf - which is hardy to Zone 6 and a native of Japan. French hydrangeas produce blooms in early summer and are typically shades of pink, blue or white. Mophead varieties (*Hydrangea macrophylla* var. *macrophylla*) produce large ball-shaped flowers with predominantly showy sterile florets and few small, fertile florets that are obscured at the interior of the inflorescence. Lacecap varieties (*Hydrangea macrophylla* var. *normalis*) typically have a flattened shape with few sterile florets on the outside of the inflorescence and many fertile florets at the center. Both mophead flowers and lacecap flowers can appear on several hydrangea species.



Hydrangea macrophylla 'Horwack' Next Generation™ Pistachio PPAF
Photo courtesy of Van Belle Nursery, Inc.



Hydrangea macrophylla 'Dancing Snow' PP21052 Double Delights™
Wedding Gown
Photo courtesy of Van Belle Nursery, Inc.



Hydrangea paniculata 'Wim's Red' PPAF
Fire and Ice
Photo courtesy of Van Belle Nursery, Inc.

Currently, the plant sale will offer one very new mophead *macrophylla* and two equally new lacecap *macrophylla*. The mophead (here we go with how to write these names) is *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Horwack' Next Generation™ Pistachio PPAF, commonly referred to as Pistachio Hydrangea. Among the multitude of blues and pinks, this one really stands out with its unique green and red flowers. Other great qualities include an increase in cold tolerance to zone 5 and the capacity to rebloom, a recent development for bigleaf hydrangeas.

Breeding for rebloom in hydrangeas seems to be the latest focus perhaps to satisfy the demand for plants that bloom "all the time". Rebloom simply refers to the ability of a plant to bloom at its normal, expected time and then again later in the same season.

Hydrangea macrophylla 'Dancing Snow' PP21052 Double Delights™ Wedding Gown (what a name!) is yet another lacecap rebloomer but with pure white double flowers. I saw this plant for the first time last year at MANTS, the Mid-Atlantic Nursery and Trade Show in Baltimore, and immediately had to touch, to hold and have one of my own. A compact grower to about 3' tall, it begins blooming early in the season continuing until fall. Wow!

Panicle hydrangea – *Hydrangea paniculata* – a native of Asia, is the most cold tolerant species in the genus. Flowering is very reliable as buds are formed in early summer just before blooming begins in mid to late summer of the same year. The beautiful hydrangeas planted in containers on the Jocylene Couture Nowak Memorial Terrace at the Hahn Garden are *Hydrangea paniculata* standards. Two available at the plant sale will be *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Wim's Red' PPAF Fire and Ice and *Hydrangea paniculata* Great Star™.

Yes, this is the same plant! Flowers of Fire and Ice open a creamy white in early spring, change by midsummer to a desert pink and end in the fall with a spectacular deep rich pink. Although a large shrub that will reach 6 – 10' high,



Hydrangea paniculata 'Le Vasterival' Great Star™
Photo courtesy of White Flower Farm.



Hydrangea arborescens 'Abetwo' PP20571 Incrediball®
Photo courtesy of Proven Winners® Color Choice.



Hydrangea quercifolia 'Munchkin'
Photo by Lisa Lipsey.

it is a compact, upright grower perfect among other plants or as a specimen.

The unusual shape of the sterile florets of *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Le Vasterival' Great Star™ really caught my eye. A recent introduction and named after Princess Greta Sturdza's garden, Le Vasterival, in Normandy, France, the clusters of white, wavy, elongated petals are simply beautiful. Bloom begins in midsummer and lasts until frost.

Another of the four widely cultivated hydrangea species in the U.S. is *Hydrangea arborescens*, commonly referred to as smooth hydrangea. It is a native found mainly as an understory shrub in eastern hardwood forests. 'Annabelle' is the most common cultivar but stems seem not quite strong enough to hold upright the large, white rounded flowers. Breeding began to increase stem size and rigidity and as an added bonus a plant was created that produced blooms four times the size of 'Annabelle' - the birth of *Hydrangea arborescens* 'Abetwo' PP20571 Incrediball®. As with other arborescens, flowers occur on new growth so plants can be pruned in fall and harsh winters will not affect flowering. Incrediball® is being promoted and sold under the Proven Winners® brand.

My favorite species, *Hydrangea quercifolia* or oakleaf hydrangea, is a North American native with large, cone-shaped white flowers, and as the common name indicates, large leaves shaped like those of an oak. Truly a multi-season shrub with beautiful white flowers, large textured leaves that change to a rich burgundy in fall and exfoliating stems for winter interest. How could you improve on that?!

During the 2008 Independent Plant Breeder's Conference, I was introduced to Dr. Sandra Reed, Research Geneticist with the U.S. National Arboretum, who was finishing trials of selected plants from her oakleaf hydrangea breeding program. Goals were to produce a more compact plant with short internodes and dominance of sterile, showy flowers. Two plants were chosen for release. NA73936 which was given the variety name 'Munchkin', a very

(continued on page 8)

(Ahhh. Hydrangeas... continued from page 7)

compact, dense plant with flowers turning a rich, medium pink, and NA74836 or 'Ruby Slippers', a compact plant with flowers that age quickly to a deep rose. In 2012, I had the pleasure of visiting with Don Shadow, renown plantsman and rare animal breeder, at his nursery/compound in Winchester, TN. There I saw row after row of field grown, eye-popping 'Munchkin'. Both these varieties are well worth trying in your own garden.

There is much information out there on when and how to prune hydrangea. An excellent article was written by Manette Lazear, Fairfax County Master Gardener. She has included an easily understandable table on growth, flowering and pruning for all commonly available species. Here's the link – <http://fairfaxmastergardeners.org/Articles/Pruning%20Hydrangeas.pdf>

And a quick word about flower color and soil pH. It is primarily cultivars of *Hydrangea macrophylla* that are dependent on the availability of aluminum for flower color. Aluminum is generally adequate in garden soils but it is the soil pH that determines whether or not that aluminum is available to the plant. Acidic soils (pH 5.5 and lower) will allow a plant to absorb aluminum and produce blue flowers. Alkaline soil (pH 6.5 and higher) will inhibit aluminum absorption producing pink flowers. If your pH is between 5.5 and 6.5, flower color may be somewhat purple or even a mixture of blue and pink in the same flower.

If you have pink flowers and want blue, the most aggressive way to lower soil pH is to apply sulfur. Adding compost and organic mulches such as pine needles will slowly lower pH. If you have blue flowers and want pink, applications of aluminum sulfate will raise soil pH, but you must be careful not to overdo it because in high doses, aluminum is toxic to plants.

Breeding to improve hardiness, increase flower size, create new flower colors or combinations, control size, increase reliable flowering, will continue to provide us with new hydrangea. The diversity of the genus *Hydrangea* is truly phenomenal, and I hope you're now super excited about adding many to your gardens. See you this **April 24-26th at the Hort Club's plant sale!**



Hydrangea quercifolia 'Ruby Slippers'
Photo courtesy of George Weigel,
Garden Writer.



Don Shadow with his beloved camel babies.
Photo by Lisa Lipsey.



To see more photos from the 2013 Gala, visit
<http://flic.kr/s/aHsjGGMmfi>

Gardening Tips – Turn Leaves into Mulch!

That pile of leaves in your yard is free mulch – helping moderate soil temperature while adding valuable organic matter. Help this process along with Paul Chumbley's tips:



Bobby Nance, student in the Public Gardens Maintenance and Management class, blows leaves from paths and beds into a pile. A rake would do nicely as well.



Paul becomes the Mulch Ninja as he runs our small mower (the Snapper Ninja model) back and forth over the pile, creating windrows of chopped-up leaves. The resulting small bits look neat, are less likely to blow off of beds, and will break down faster.



The finished product can be added back to to beds as mulch or a worked in as a soil amendment. Here, Paul uses it to top off the Junior Master Gardener's veggie and herb beds.

Have Your Event at the Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion

The Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion was a happening place this past year! Events included everything from football tailgate parties to holiday events to retired faculty breakfasts. There were over 50 different events in the Pavilion in 2013. The Pavilion is used for meetings, retreats, dinners, and receptions. Virginia Tech units receive a small discount in the rental fee (which changes depending on the length of use, day of the week, and time of the year).

The Garden and Pavilion are lovely when set up for weddings! There were nine weddings in 2013 and we're really getting booked for 2014. The wedding season runs from late May until mid-October (home football games really interfere with fall wedding dates). Couples that married at the Garden have been very pleased and just loved the space!

We've had some rather unusual events here too. There was a seven-day Wilderness First-Responder training class held in January. It was quite exciting to walk out in the hall and find the participants being treated for burns and gashes that were created with actor's makeup! And to find bodies in and laying around the stream garden while their rescuers wrapped the victims with hypothermia blankets!

The Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion has been an incredible asset to the Garden and the Department of Horticulture! We receive many compliments on what a useful and lovely space it is for events. Though it is used regularly by Virginia Tech units, it is also available for groups or individuals not associated with the university. The rental rates are reasonable, there is a parking lot right in front of the building, and it is such a lovely space inside surrounded by the beautiful Garden. You can't find a much better place for an event! – *Stephanie Huckestein (to reach Stephanie, call (540) 231-5970 or email vtgarden@vt.edu.*

Upcoming Seminars and Workshops at the Hahn Horticulture Garden

Don't go dormant! Join us for educational programs and special events this winter and spring. Become a Friend of the Garden and enjoy our member discounts! (visit our web site for membership form). Most programs are held at the Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion; pre-registration is required. Workshops and seminars are described in more detail, along with speaker bios, on our web page www.hort.vt.edu/hhg/events.

Herbs 101

with Ellen Reynolds of Beagle Ridge Herb Farm

Saturday January 25, 10:00—11:30 a.m. Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion

Have you always wanted to grow herbs but didn't know where to start? Herbs 101 will discuss how to choose, plant and harvest herbs for your cooking needs. In addition, enjoy some tasty treats with simple herb blends (recipes will be available). For more on herbs, stick around for Herbal Tea Time!

Ellen Reynolds is the Director of the Beagle Ridge Environmental Education Center in Wytheville as well as a gardener, specializing in herbs.

\$15 Friends of the Garden/\$20 general public*

Herbal Tea Time

with Ellen Reynolds of Beagle Ridge Herb Farm

Saturday January 25, 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion

Do you enjoy herbal tea and want to know how to blend the perfect cup of tea? Join us for a hands on program as we discuss herbs and their properties and create several different blends for a perfect cup of Herbal tea. You will make 2 different blends to take home and enjoy at a later date.

\$20 Friends of the Garden/\$25 general public*

***Sign up for both herbal workshops and receive a \$5 discount!**

China – Its Flora, Frustrations and Future Prospects for American Gardens

with Dr. Richard Olsen of the United States National Arboretum

Saturday February 15, 10:00—11:30 a.m. Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion

China, the Mother of Gardens, is the center of diversity for many species of plants cultivated in our gardens. With over 30,000 species, China is both storehouse and driver of genetic diversity. Modern-day plant hunters and plant breeders tap into this diversity to develop new ornamentals with novel traits and pest and disease resistances. Dr. Olsen will discuss his recent trip to China, the research conducted, the plant species seen, and the implications for American horticulture. Dr. Olsen is one of the top plantmen in the country and a research scientist with the USDA/National Arboretum.

\$15 Friends of the Garden/\$20 general public

Seed Starting Workshop

with Dr. Holly Scoggins, HHG Director

Tuesday March 4, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Join us for an info-packed seminar on how to get the most out of your vegetable and flower seeds. Holly will cover seed saving and storage, strategies to enhance germination, and care of seedlings. Bonus: take home seeds and other goodies to get started! Holly is an Associate Professor, teaches courses in the Dept. of Horticulture and is the Director of the Hahn Horticulture Garden. [Must pre-register; attendance limited to 25].



\$15 Friends of the Garden and Hale YMCA Gardeners/\$20 general public.*

Mini Hoophouse Construction at the Hale YMCA Community Garden

Tuesday March 4, 1:30—3:30 p.m.

Come to the Hale YMCA Community Garden to learn how to build a mini hoophouse, perfect for nurturing a few flats of spring seedlings. Take the hoophouse home, or place in your community garden plot. Tools and materials will be provided.

Taught by Hale Y Community Garden Coordinator Jenny Schwanke. An excellent follow-up to Seed Starting and Saving with Holly Scoggins (register for both and save \$5!)

\$15 Hale YMCA Gardeners and Friends of the Hahn Garden/\$20 general public.*

***Sign up for both Seed Starting and Mini Hoophouse Construction and receive a \$5 discount!**

Garden Flow

with Karen Rexrode, artist and photographer, estate gardener at Oak Hill (Leesburg, VA), and horticulturist with Merrifield Garden Center.

Saturday March 29, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered how a garden can seem to fit around a home, like the perfect piece in a puzzle?



When the house and landscape flow together, you feel very comfortable in that space. For many years Karen has found this concept intriguing. Questions arise: is it a personal thing? Naturalistic thing? A lack of mastery or someone's great attention to detail? After years of studying the concept, Karen ties the movement and visual cues into a lecture that will help you understand what makes a person feel comfortable in your garden—the art of garden flow.

\$15 Friends of the Garden/\$20 general public

Pre-registration required. Clip form and mail to the address below; or call (540) 231-5970 or email vtgarden@vt.edu to register.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City and State: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

	# Attending	Cost: Friends of the Garden/ General Public		\$ Total
Herbs 101		\$15/20	Save \$5 when you sign up for both! \$30/40	
Herbal Tea Time		\$20/25		
Flora of China		\$15/20		
Seed Starting and Saving		\$15/20	Save \$5 when you sign up for both! \$25/35	
Mini Hoophouse Construction		\$15/20		
Garden Flow		\$15/20		
Total				

Make checks payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech.

MAIL THIS FORM WITH CHECK TO:
Hahn Horticulture Garden at Virginia Tech
Peggy Lee Hahn Pavilion (0915)
200 Garden Lane
Blacksburg, VA 24061

We will only contact you if an event is filled or cancelled, or we need to change the location. For more information on these seminars or other Garden events, call (540) 231-5970 or e-mail vtgarden@vt.edu.

Please check our website for program updates www.hort.vt.edu/hhg/events

Free! Learn at Lunch: Walks and Talks at the Hahn Horticulture Garden

All from noon to 1:00 p.m. on selected Wednesdays as noted. All talks meet at the Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion. No charge! Parking pass required for our visitor lot. Check our website for additional Learn at Lunch talks as they're added.

Fabulous Plants, Fantastic Combinations

with Dr. Holly Scoggins, Associate Professor, Dept. of Horticulture and Garden Director, HHG

February 5, 12:00—1:00 p.m.

Holly helps fend off winter with a plant-lust-inducing hour of fun! Her talk will feature unusual and underused tropicals, perennials and more.

Pollinators at Pandapas

with Barbara Walker, U.S. Forest Service

February 26, 12:00—1:00 p.m.

Barbara will share some new features at Pandapas Pond (in the George Washington & Jefferson National Forest) including the new Pollinator Garden!



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Thank you!

GENERAL GIFTS AND PLEDGES (July 2012- June 2013)

Jeffery H. Francis
T. Marshall Hahn
Mike and Susie Hildebrand
(Hildebrand Landscape Internship)
Jamie Cowell-Lucero
Sherwood P. Quillen
In memory of Jeanette Munns and
June Gauntlett:
Edward and Denise Munns

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Hort Couture
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*See the gala article listing 2013 gala
sponsors. Thank you to all who have
contributed to the garden!*

*Please bring any omissions to the
attention of Dr. Holly Scoggins at
perennials@vt.edu or
(540) 231-5783.*

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(2013-2014 members listed in the next Garden Leaflet)

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