



ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

North American Rock Garden Society

Green Dragon Tales

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Visit our blog: acnargs.blogspot.com

July-August2017

SUNDAY AUGUST 27: ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEMBERS' PLANT SALE

David Mitchell, Plant Sale Chair

Note change of DATE and PLACE! We are meeting on Sunday August 27 (the 4th week-end of August) at the picnic shelter at Upper Treman State Park.

Please think about potting up plants now for our annual member sale August 27th. Here's your opportunity to share some of your select plants (even if you can only spare one division) where you can be sure they'll be nurtured and appreciated. Please label them in advance as this will facilitate set-up.

Plans are set for this year's members plant sale to be held at the picnic shelter at Treman State Park's Upper Entrance. Note at 10 a.m. the Park starts charging a parking fee (unless you have a season pass). For directions go to the Park website **Robert H. Treman State Park** and click on directions, which will take you to Google maps. The Park's address is 105 Enfield Center Road, Ithaca, however you will drive past the main entrance and proceed up a long and winding hill to the upper entrance.

- 10:00 a.m. Arrive, get your plant sale number and help with sale set-up; bring a dish-to-pass
- 11:00 a.m. (approximately) Plant sale begins
- 12:00 noon Lunch and optional cook-out
- Hike the gorge (optional)

As in past years, we'll very democratically allow those who arrive first to get "first dibs" at purchases. So it pays to arrive early and sign in. All members are welcome, whether you

bring plants to sell or not. This sale has become an important revenue stream for the Chapter and a great source for adding exciting new plants to your garden.

For the treasured and rare plants, we will have a silent auction table. Note this is our only members-only sale and we should have some real gems (last year there were a number of rock garden plants and they were a big hit). You may join for 2017 at the meeting for \$10 (\$15 for families). It's still a great value since we have half of our program year ahead of us.

The sale begins at approximately 11, with a dish-to-pass lunch to follow. Please bring your own service. Beverages will be supplied. We'll fire up the grill for those who want to bring grillables.

We have a great set-up for the sale with options to contend with whatever weather mother nature throws at us - indoor tables, outdoor tables under a roofed porch, and exposed outdoor tables.

Following lunch, those who wish to hike the gorgeous gorge at Treman may do so. It's a short but steep downhill hike with wet spots on the trail so wear good shoes and of course, the return is all uphill. If you've never done this before, it comes highly recommended. Hopefully we won't be flooded out as happened the last time we held our sale at this park.

All in all, look forward to a good time with plenty of plants and food for everyone!

FROM THE CHAIR

John Gilrein, ACNARGS Chair

What a contrast this summer has been (cool & wet) compared to last summer's (drought). The grass has certainly been growing well (no watering) and the rock garden plants I planted this spring have been doing well with just a little watering, mostly after planting. I'm still hoping for lots of summery, sunny (but not too hot) days for the second half of summer. Though most of the rock garden plants I planted this spring have survived (better survival rate than normal I think) due to the moderate weather, I still think there are one or 2 that I lost.

Our summer picnic & plant sale is off cycle (that is, not the 3rd Saturday of the month) this year due to a conflict with the conifer society annual meeting in Syracuse that week-end. So our meeting will be held on **Sunday August 27 at the picnic shelter at the upper entrance to the Robert H. Treman State Park (Enfield Glen)**. I have been impressed recently with the many interesting and unusual plants donated for our summer plant sale, not to mention all the good food! With the picnic only 4 weeks away (less by the time you read this newsletter), it's time to check your garden to find plants to donate, and pot them up in order for them to look perky by August 27.

I have been thinking about the plant sale the last several weeks, and I have seen some plants during my weeding adventures that had not been on my radar for donating (but now are). Don't forget about the parking fee for this state park, and if you can carpool you can save a few bucks (or arrive before 10 am). I hope you can participate in this always enjoyable event.

A few of us have had NARGS trips to far-flung locales. Two highlights were looking at plants in Wyoming/Montana (for George & me) or in the Dolomites (Carol & Terry). I'm hoping to hear more about the trip I missed, since the Dolomites are one of the best places to see gorgeous alpine plants amidst stunning scenery. We only saw *Saxifraga oppositifolia* (purple saxifrage) in one location in Montana, near the Wyoming border, growing on a cliff, but I am happy that it seems to grow reasonably well here in central New York. This tour was offered by NARGS as one of its member benefits.

Behind the scenes, your board has been working on the speakers for our fall 2017 meetings and Plant-of-the-Month for September and October. We have some very worthwhile speakers lined up to lure you inside from the blissful fall weather we are all hoping to see.

John Gilreán, Chair

MEMORIES OF OUR JUNE 17 GARDEN TOUR

Carol Eichler

Though I didn't count the number attending, we had an excellent turnout for our day trip to Franklin/Oneonta area gardens and the weather was very cooperative. With many thanks to Deborah Banks for the selection of gardens, making the arrangements, and giving us flawless directions (a lot of work!), we were able to visit five gardens – each one unique and each one outstanding. For a collage of photos please see the Photos-of-the-Month page. And thank you Ellen Lane for being “tour police” to keep us on schedule!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator

Please welcome new member Nancy Malanowicz from West Chester, PA - she joined at the May plant sale.

You must be renewed for 2017 to participate in the members' only plant sale at our August picnic. Check my email announcement of the newsletter link for your membership status.

NEWS FROM NARGS : NEW OFFICERS

The NARGS 2017 online election results are listed below and as of July 1 all have assumed their new or returning positions.

President Betty Anne Spar
 Vice-President Don LaFond
 Treasurer Richard H. Lane
 Recording Secretary Joyce Hemingson
Board of Directors (3 open positions)
 Marianne Kuchel

Panayoti Kelaidis
Steve Whitesell

MORE NEWS FROM NARGS: ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 17-19 IN DURHAM, NC

If you haven't been to a NARGS annual meeting, here's a great opportunity to attend one since it is driving distance away. In November, "up north," we are retiring our gardens and anticipating the winter ahead but the weather in North Carolina is still mild and viewing gardens there should be a most welcome sight.



Tony Avent's
Crevice Garden

The 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NARGS will be held in Durham, North Carolina on November 17-19, and is being hosted by the Piedmont Chapter. The AGM will explore the past, present, and future of rock gardening in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic regions of the U.S.

The AGM will include a welcome reception and presentation on Friday evening, November 17; a full day of presentations on Saturday, November 18; and tours to three gardens in the Triangle area

on Sunday, November 19. Additional activities include an optional pre-conference, two-day guided tour of botanically interesting natural areas in North Carolina's Coastal Plain on November 15 and 16, and visits to several gardens in the Triangle area on November 17. Details on the meeting as well as an on-line registration form are available on the meeting website (www.piedmontnargs.org).

The meeting is being held in November to see the amazing drifts of fall-blooming snowdrops (*Galanthus elwesii* var. *monostictus*) and other bulbs at Nancy Goodwin's garden at Montrose; to see Tony Avent's Juniper Level Botanic Garden (and its recently installed crevice garden) and to shop at Plant Delights Nursery; and to see the plants and gardens at the JC Raulston Arboretum. It will be an opportunity to learn about and see other outstanding gardens. The Triangle Area (Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill), North Carolina, has a rich history of outstanding gardeners, including Tony Avent, Nancy Goodwin, Elizabeth Lawrence, William Lanier Hunt, and J. C. Raulston.



Galanthus elwesii var.
monostictus at Montrose

The conference includes outstanding speakers (Tim Alderton, Tony Avent, John Grimshaw, Larry Mellichamp, Jeremy Schmidt, Andrea Sprott, Joseph Tychonievich, and

Bobby Ward) as well as visits to some of the area's best gardens. In designing the meeting, we have minimized the hassle and expense associated with renting a car or hiring a taxi. The host hotel - the Sheraton Imperial near the Raleigh-Durham (RDU) airport -- will provide free shuttle service between the airport and the hotel. In addition, transportation will be provided for the garden tours.

UPCOMING 2017 ACNARGS PROGRAMS

Mark your calendars! Unless otherwise specified, all local events start with a brown bag lunch at noon with the program following at 1 pm, and take place at the renovated Whetzel Room, 404 Plant Science Building, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Aug. 27: ACNARGS Picnic and Members' Plant Sale at Upper Treman State Park. Note the meeting is scheduled for the 4th Sunday of August. Mark your calendar now.

Sept. 16: Ken Hull, Native Orchids

Oct. 21 Yasemin Kon, author of *Wildflowers of Turkey*

Nov. 11: Mary & Steve Squyres: "Following the Secret Lives of Plants: snooping on your garden [with help from technology]"

Nov. 17-19: NARGS Annual Meeting, Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Register now. Info [here](#).

As we learn more details of these meetings they will be included in future newsletters, our blog, [acnargs.blogspot.com](http://www.acnargs.blogspot.com), and our Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/acnargs>.

CALENDAR OF SELECT GARDEN EVENTS

To have a garden event in your area listed send all pertinent information to Carol Eichler at carolithaca@gmail.com

Aug. 17-19: American Conifer Society national meeting in East Syracuse. [Info here](#).

ABOUT US – ACNARGS

We are an all-volunteer organization and one of thirty-eight NARGS affiliated chapters active in North America. Our annual Chapter activities include 6 program-speaker meetings, the Green Dragon newsletter, web and Facebook pages, garden visits, overnight garden trips, hands-on workshops, and 3 plant sales a year. Our meetings are informal, friendly gatherings that provide a wealth of information and offer a source for unusual plants, plus the opportunity to be inspired by other gardeners. The public is always welcome.

Chapter membership starts at \$10 a year based on the calendar year. Membership includes these benefits: newsletter sent to you electronically (or option by mail for an extra fee), opportunity to travel on our planned overnight garden trips, and plant sale discounts and member only sales, including Plant-of-the-Month sales. Download a membership form here:

<http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf>.

ABOUT NARGS NATIONAL

NARGS National is our parent organization: We encourage you to join (online at www.nargs.org) for only \$40 a year. Benefits include a seed exchange, a quarterly publication, and an on-line web site featuring an archive of past publications, a chat forum and a horticultural encyclopedia. NARGS National also conducts winter study weekends, and holds its Annual Meeting in interesting places where attendees have the opportunity to visit gardens, and take field trips, often to alpine areas, as well as hear talks by outstanding plants people from around the world. More recently, they have begun sponsoring botanical tours each year open to members only.

RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE/2017 BOARD MEMBERS

If you want to volunteer, we'd love to hear from you!

Chair: John Gilrein, basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu
 Program: Terry Humphries, terryhumphries@gmail.com
 Program Committee Members: **Could this be you?**
 Secretary: Mary Stauble, mes2@cornell.edu
 Treasurer: BZ Marranca, mmm10@cornell.edu
 Plant Sales Chair: David Mitchell, dwm23@cornell.edu. **Thanks to the members who offered to help this year!**
 Plant Sales Committee Members: Michael Loos, BZ Marranca, Carol Eichler
 Plant of the Month: Marlene Kobre, mkobre@ithaca.edu
 Membership: Mary Stauble, mes2@cornell.edu
 New Member Hospitality: Nari Mistry, rbm2@cornell.edu
 Newsletter Editor: Carol Eichler carolithaca@gmail.com
 Newsletter Assistant: Pat Curran, pc21@cornell.edu
 Webmaster, Program Tech: Craig Cramer, cdcramer@gmail.com

GREEN DRAGON TALES

Published eight times a year (Jan/Feb., March, April, May/June, July/Aug., Sept., Oct. Nov./Dec.). Submit articles by the fourth Friday of the month preceding publication to Carol Eichler, carolithaca@gmail.com. Note: The next issue of *The Green Dragon* will be our September 2017 issue coming out in early September. The newsletter is always posted and printable each month on our website: www.acnargs.org.

(There's one more page you won't want to miss)

PHOTOS—OF—THE—MONTH



June 17 Garden Tour
Oneonta/Franklin Area

