

ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

North American Rock Garden Society

Green Dragon Tales

Visit our blog: acnargs.blogspot.com

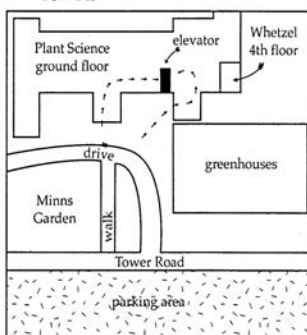
November 2022

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****NOTE: We're meeting on the 2nd Sunday at 1:00pm; lunch at noon. Our meetings are back at Whetzel Room, Room 404 Plant Sciences Building 236 Tower Road, Cornell University! ****

And parking? Craig assures us: With no football game on a Sunday, the lots along Tower Rd. should be pretty open. Folks can drop people or plants or supplies off at the Minns Garden entrance.



The west wing of the Plant Sciences Building has been shut down for renovations. But those won't start until next year sometime. So other than having those hallways walled off, everything should look pretty much as it did last time you were here. Remember the elevator to the 4th floor and then exit right down the long hallway. You will be facing the Whetzel Room.

Bring your own bag lunch at noon and enjoy the opportunity to socialize before the program and Chapter meeting begins at 1:00 pm.



Epimedium grandiflorum 'Bicolor Giant'

KAREN PERKINS : NOVEMBER 13 : EPIMEDIUMS - JEWELS OF THE SHADE

Terry Humphries, Program Coordinator

Known by many as a simple ground cover for dry woodland shade, Epimediums are finally getting the appreciation that they deserve. This "perfect shade perennial" possesses a delicate beauty that belies its surprisingly tough, long-lasting nature. Our speaker Karen Perkins, owner of Garden Visions Epimediums, will illustrate the many and varied types now commercially available, including some of the exciting new evergreen species from China. Characteristics, growth habit, growing and propagation,



pests and diseases, and combining Epimediums with other shade perennials in the garden will also be addressed. We will even get a glimpse into the collecting trips to China made by Darrell Probst.

Karen Perkins came into to the nursery business via the botanic garden world, where she spent the first half of her career. Her venture into Epimediums was the result of working alongside plant collector and hybridizer Darrell Probst. He started Garden Vision Epimediums in

1997, both as a way to pay for his plant collecting passion and to preserve the genus, if not in the wild, where it is often over-collected for medicinal use, then in gardens around the world. Darrell networked with many other Epimedium collectors, nurserymen and experts worldwide to amass an impressive array of species and varieties. Many of the cultivars at Garden Visions are select seedlings from the garden of the late Epimedium enthusiast Harold Epstein, who often traveled to Japan, as well as from Darrell's own breeding efforts and selection.

Karen left her job at Tower Hill Botanic Garden in 2001 and has worked full time in the business since then, doing most of the nursery maintenance, propagation, promotion, sales and shipping an impressive array of species and varieties. In 2009, Karen became the sole owner of the small retail nursery she runs from rural central Massachusetts and through the website www.epimediums.com,



Epimedium perralderianum

A farewell to Garden Visions Epimediums... Here's a last chance to purchase choice selections of this perfect shade perennial from a renowned propagator.

Karen is winding down toward retirement as the owner of Garden Vision Epimediums. Many of the choice species and varieties that she will bring to sell at our

meeting will be hard or impossible to find in the future. Garden Visions no longer offers plants by mail order, and we will have a rare chance to acquire them on November 13. In lieu of 'Plant of the Month', ACNARGS is offering one \$5.00 "coupon" to members to apply toward their purchase of the plants she will bring.

You may want to peruse the website www.epimediums.com to see what is available and to decide whether you would like her to make sure to bring you something specific. Just connect with her by email at gvepimediums@gmail.com well ahead of time, and she will be happy to accommodate. More ordering information is available at <https://www.epimediums.com/ordering/>. Note: Karen has discontinued her credit card account and can accept only cash or check in payment.

You will get a great sense of how each species looks at its peak during the presentation and by looking at the display labels at her sales table. The prices generally range between \$12 = \$22 but she is also bringing a few of the rarer Chinese species that cost a bit more (\$35-45). We have a lot to look forward to on November 13!

Culture & Growth

Epimediums are easy to grow, long-lived shade perennials that thrive in well-drained, humus-rich, moisture retentive soils. Although many species grow in limestone soil in China, they also have grown very well in the slightly acid soils of north central Massachusetts. The deciduous species native to Japan (and sometimes Korea) *E. diphyllum*, *grandiflorum*, and *sempervirens*, grow on slightly acidic soils in their native habitat. They can be planted in partial sun (with adequate moisture) in northern latitudes; but need more shade further south. Too much sun will scorch the leaves, making them look unsightly, but will not kill the plant. They are tough, and once established, many tolerate dry shady garden sites where other plants fail. This makes them good choices for planting under shallow-rooted trees and in gardens that experience periodic drought



Epimedium x 'Lemon Zest'

Just a reminder, we ask all attendees to be fully vaccinated. Additionally, we will be following CDC and NYS covid protocol, which at this time does not require masks though you may choose to do so. Please do not attend if you are not feeling well.

FROM THE CHAIR

John Gilrein, Chair

As I write this on October 20, there are a lot of things to feel good about Chapter plant sales are going very well, we've transitioned to live meetings and re-instituting our Plant

of the Month, it's now peak fall color, and just last week I finally received the residual funds held by Cornell, i.e. registration funds leftover after all the bills were paid. I



Hosta 'Rhino Gold'

haven't had a frost yet, and still blooming now are *Aster tartaricus* 'Jindai', *Saxifraga fortunei*, *Symphotrichum* (*Aster*) *shortii*, *Heuchera villosa*, and *Cyclamen hederifolium*. If you don't yet think of hostas for good fall color, some of the larger hostas are very showy now, with their foliage turning gold. I've had the best luck with medium to large size blue leaved hostas like 'Rhino Hide' and 'Abiqua Drinking Gourd'. These have strong enough stems to remain upright as the leaves change color.

Our meeting site for the last few months has been the public library in downtown Ithaca. This site has worked well. In the past we have used several other sites as meeting spaces (Whetzel, KPL, 4-H Acres). Another new site we might consider is the Nevin Meeting Room at Cornell Botanic Garden. Every site has its pros and cons, related to things like parking, ease of access, and the space itself. We're considering all these variables when we plan a meeting. Please let me (Chapter Chair) and Terry (Program Coordinator) know how you feel about our meeting space(s). We get little feedback except for a few comments at a meeting and I appreciate when I do get feedback! The October meeting, with Kaj Andersen as the speaker, was quite a success, with many positive reviews of the talk on the crevice garden at Bangsbo Botanic Garden.

The Adirondack Chapter will be packaging seeds again, as we have done for years, as part of the NARGS annual seed exchange. We'll plan for a workday or 2 in December, as we've done in the past. The exact plan, whether we do this remotely or meet in person, will be determined later. It's always an enjoyable time of camaraderie when we get together to work on seeds, and it's a vital part of the seed exchange. It will likely be around the first weekend of December (December 2-4). We will send out an email once we have the details. I hope you will join us.

John Gilrein, Adirondack Chapter Chair

CREATE A BOG GARDEN

John Gilrein

Our program at the September 24 meeting was about bog gardens. It was an interesting and informative meeting about creating a bog garden and including information about some bog garden plants to grow. The speaker at this meeting was Mike Hough, a professor at SUNY Cortland, fan of native plants, adventurous gardener, with bog, fen, and meadow gardens at his home in Homer, NY (USDA Zone 5). This article is a mix of what Mike discussed in his presentation and what I have learned in my experience through study and visiting bogs in nature.

What is a bog? My idea is in keeping with the ecological concept of a bog, MH's presentation, and the strictest definition. A bog is a perennially wet, acidic, nutrient poor wetland characterized by the presence of sphagnum moss and peat buildup, low in nutrients and oxygen, and generally fed by rainwater. Peat builds up in bogs due to the

lack of decomposition caused by the low pH. If you want to create a bog garden, beware of internet information that may mislead you with information deviating from the above definition. I did a quick check on the internet and found some sites that considered a bog garden to be a wetland garden, maybe growing marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), irises, and/or candelabra primroses, (*Primula japonica* and others); these wetland plants like fertility and are not fussy about soil pH. A bog garden is a little like a rock garden; in creating one you have to toss out a lot of standard gardening practice if you want success.

Some don'ts for a bog garden: don't use a cheap plastic liner, don't punch holes in the liner or tub you use, never fertilize the garden, don't use any sand containing lime (some of our local sand is limey/alkaline), don't water the garden with hard water (i.e. water containing dissolved lime), and don't allow soil/nutrient runoff into the bog garden from surrounding areas. My brother raised pitcher plants from seed, accidentally watered the pitcher plants (which were in a greenhouse with other plants) with a water/fertilizer solution, and this fertilizer solution killed the pitcher plants. True bog plants are adapted to a nutrient poor environment, and that's what they need to grow in. Deviating from any of the caveats could result in catastrophic failure of the bog. If you wanted to create a different type of wetland (like a fen or a marsh), you wouldn't follow the same process.

To start a bog garden, you need either a container, like a plastic tub, or a liner. A heavy rubber liner, like EPDM, is much better than some of the alternative (and less durable) liners one could use. I'd suggest a depth of a foot to 2 feet deep; there's probably no reason to have it deeper. I found a preformed plastic (polyethylene) pond liner online that's approximately the size of a half whiskey barrel, approximately 2 feet in diameter for around \$25 (depth wasn't specified but it looks deep enough). There are plenty of other preformed pond liners of various sizes and shapes. Locate the site for the garden in full sun, or almost full sun. Dig the hole for the bog; I'd suggest having the bog slightly higher than its surroundings to avoid runoff into the bog. Make sure there are no sharp stones at the bottom of the hole. Especially if you are using a liner, you'll want to line the bottom of the hole with something soft, like sand or old carpet. You could have one side of the bog garden lower so the water from rain runs off that side.

This is helpful information on creating a true bog garden:

<https://www.treehugger.com/how-create-bog-garden-4863642>.

For the planting medium, use either 100% baled peat moss (which is just dried, compressed sphagnum) or peat moss and acidic sand. You can find acidic sand (i.e. usually quartz) at a big box hardware store in 40 pound bags. Quartz sand is usually tan or brown. If you're not sure the sand is acidic, check the pH with a pH meter (a minor expense if you're going through all this trouble of creating a bog). Different opinions vary on using solely peat moss, a base of sand with peat moss on top, or peat moss mixed with sand. In any case, I suggest if using a mix, to use a much higher proportion of peat to sand. In nature, bog plants are growing in a thick spongy layer of peat. Avoid coir, which has a slightly acidic to neutral pH, or Michigan peat, which is basically composted sedges. Peat moss is



Saracena flava, non-native and possibly hardy

hydrophobic (hard to wet), so it would be helpful to leave the bale(s) open to rain, or cut open the bale(s) and pour in water from rain barrels. You might squeak by using tap water, but do it at your own risk. Add the moistened medium to the bog (pond liner or membrane) filling it to the top. If the medium is not sufficiently moistened, it may expand as it absorbs more water. You can buy planting mix for your bog, but I can't think of a reason to spend the extra money for this, since peat moss is cheaper and easier to obtain. Pear moss, after all, was harvested from a bog, likely in Quebec.

True bogs are found in the north temperate zone in northeastern North America, common in Quebec, and less common in Maine, Massachusetts, and New York. Most of the bog plants from the northeast are extremely hardy (to at least USDA Zone 3); these include pitcher plants (*Sarracenia purpurea*), sundews (*Drosera spatulifolia* and *D. rotundifolia*), cranberries (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*), bog rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), bog laurel (*Kalmia polifolia*), sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum* sp.), and rose pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*). Other plants not found in northeastern bogs may be hardy enough to grow outdoors, depending on your location. MH reported these were hardy in Homer: *Sarracenia flava* (yellow pitcher plant), *Dionaea muscipula* (venus fly trap), and *Drosera filifolia* (thread leaf sundew). The first 2 are found in coastal North Carolina, and the last one is found in the New Jersey pine barrens.

How to get plants: Carnivorous Plant Nursery is one mail order source. You could collect seed (where collecting is allowed) at boggy areas in the Adirondacks, and boggy areas are common there. For edging the bog, use only acidic rocks and no limestone. Keep plant roots from the surrounding area from growing into the bog.

Maintenance: a bog should be somewhat resistant to drying out. In very dry weather, like the drought of this past summer, you'll want to monitor the bog and add rain water (or you could have rain from the roof diverted to the bog) to maintain the wetness. There doesn't need to be standing water as long as the bog is wet a few inches below the surface; sphagnum is very good at holding moisture. Remove weeds when they're small. Some weeds to watch out for would be tree seedlings, grasses, and sedges. Keep grass clippings out of the bog, and remove fallen leaves in the autumn.

Editor's Note: We did not record Mike's talk but he gave a very similar one to the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society in January 2021. So if you missed our meeting, here's a 2nd chance to vie. [Mike Hough on creating-native-bog-garden.](#)

PLANT OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

We will not have plant of the month but Karen Perkins is bringing epimediums to sell from her nursery. All ACNARGS members will receive a \$5.00 off coupon toward their purchase. Karen will let us know how to overwinter these tough plants. Her talk will address their merits. Karen is closing her nursery so this is one of the last opportunities to purchase these wonderful selections from her nursery.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER : LOOKING AHEAD

Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator

This is a reminder that our membership year runs the calendar year. So, starting January 1, 2023 everyone's membership will have expired and we all will need to renew. Rates are \$15 a year for an individual/\$20 for a household. Hopefully all will be normal in 2023, that is, our meetings will be held in person. I will send out an email reminder in January and there will be an announcement in the January/February newsletter. The renewal form is at <http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf>. Contact Mary Stauble at mes2@cornell.edu if you have any questions.

Not a 2022 member? You can join now or at the November meeting for \$15 to include the remainder of 2022 and all of 2023. Plus you'll be able to take advantage of the member discount offered when you purchase a plant from our November speaker.

ERICAS AND CALLUNAS (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS HEATHS AND HEATHERS)

Frank Kirk and Susanne Barnes
Photos by Frank Kirk

Heath or *Erica* spp. and heather or *Calluna vulgaris* are members of the Ericaceae family, which includes rhododendron, azalea, blueberry and huckleberry. They are low growing evergreen shrubs that naturally grow in dry, well drained and nutrient poor soils from the northern British Isles to the Mediterranean. They grow along coastal areas as well as inland. When well established, they are low maintenance and drought resistant. In this article we discuss hardy varieties growing in zone 4 and 5.

Suzanne Barnes...I fell in love



Heathers at New York Botanical Garden (NYBG)

with the idea that these semi-shrub plants work as a specimen plant in a garden as well as a green carpet with an almost ethereal bloom of pink, red and white flowers. Consider a mix of heathers that include single or double blooms and the delicate bud bloomers. Once established their maintenance is minimal. But do not shirk watering especially during the first year. Water through the fall, being careful not to oversoak any added peat moss later in the year. This may lead to frost heaving. These plants have tender roots close to the soil surface and are susceptible to the winter freeze and thaw cycles.

Add winter protection of 2-3 inches of leaves after the ground freezes in December. If the garden gets lots of wind, consider covering the leaves with frost cloth. Prune and shape heathers in the spring before the new growth begins (to avoid legginess). Prune heaths after they



More heathers at NYBG

bloom. My heathers have survived deer, rabbits and chipmunks with little damage. Also, they are pest free during the growing season.

Frank Kirk...My interest in heaths and heathers began when helping Suzanne Barnes on my first day as an intern in the Broome County master gardener program. She encouraged me to join the Northeast Heather Society and travel to Fort Tryon Park in New York City for the annual shearing of the heathers. This heath and heather garden was started decades ago and has been maintained by the parks department and the Northeast Heather Society. It was fascinating to see the variety of heaths and heathers and how well they grew in that setting. Under the guidance of Suzanne Barnes and the members of the heather society, I volunteered as team leader for the Cutler heath and heather garden and later started a heather garden at my own home. Propagating heathers has been an interest of mine from early on. I found it challenging but this year very rewarding as I grew several dozen plants including the ones I brought to the rock garden society plant sale.

My favorite heaths are any variety of *Erica carnea* as they grow extremely well in my yard, perhaps because they are alkaline tolerant. I have also had great success with the heather varieties of Beoley Gold, Kerstin, White Lawn, Firefly, Gold Haze, and Maire's Variety to name a few.



Erica carnea 'Schneekuppe' in Frank's garden

Thank you for including us in your plant sale this spring. It was a pleasure to share our enthusiasm for heaths and heathers with you.

Heathers, or *Calluna vulgaris*, are all one genus and species with over 800 varieties. *Calluna* comes from Latin for sweep clean or beautify. *Calluna* branches were once used as brooms. They have scale like foliage that may be gray, yellow, gold, orange, red and many shades of green. Most are upright but some are prostrate. The foliage may change color or intensify during the year. Flowers range from white to pink, red, lavender, mauve and purple. Flowers bloom primarily in the summer and fall.

Growing habits of *Callunas*/heathers include:

1] Well drained acidic soil with a pH of 5.5 to 6.5. Soil should be amended with coarse sand for improved drainage. Be careful with sand as many sources can be very alkaline. Perlite or chicken grit can substitute. Peat moss added in 1:1 ratio with good garden soil will lower the pH.

2] At least 6 to 8 hours of sunlight per day. Shade or early morning sun may compromise flowering.

3] Water regularly during the first and second year. Once established they are drought tolerant.



Erica carnea 'Springwood Pink'

4] Fertilize sparingly. It is recommended to place Hollytone around the base of each plant in the spring after the first year. Be careful not to disturb the shallow roots.

5] Pruning in spring. Trim heathers below the flowers from the previous year. No foliage will grow on the part of stem that carried the flowers.

Ericas encompass several dozen species and hundreds of varieties. Only a few are hardy in the Northeast notably *Erica carnea*, *Erica x darlyensis*, *Erica cinerea* and *Erica tetatrlix*. Erica comes from the Greek for needle. They have needle like foliage and generally have a low growing spreading habit rather than the upright form of most heathers. *Erica carnea* and *Erica x darlyensis* bloom in the spring while many others bloom in the summer and fall. Foliage is primarily shades of green and bloom colors are as varied as heathers.

Growing habits of Ericas/heaths include:



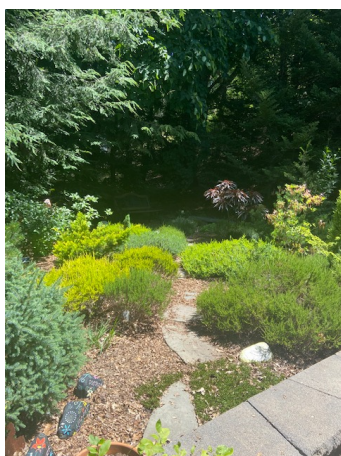
Native heathers growing in northern Spain

1] Soil requirements are similar to heathers with notable exception of *Erica carnea* and *Erica x darlyensis*. They are both alkaline tolerant and need little pH adjustment of the soil.

2] Sunlight, water and fertilization are similar to heathers.

3] *Erica* require little pruning except to contain their spread.

All heaths and heathers grown in our area require winter protection. If left exposed, they are at risk for desiccation in the winter from sunlight and wind. The recommendations are to cover the plants with leaves in the late fall about the time the ground freezes. Oak leaves have less fungal problems, are slightly acidic and allow moisture to pass through. The leaves should be removed early in the spring. *Erica carnea*, also known as winter heath, may be in bloom when the leaves are removed.



Frank's heather garden

Propagation

Both heaths and heathers respond to a variety of propagation methods. These plants can be grown from cuttings. They can also be propagated through layering where a branch is scored and partially buried long enough to grow roots and then can be separated from the parent plant. Older plants can be dropped layered to rejuvenate the plant. In this technique a hole is dug large enough to hold the roots and bare stems of the plant. The plants are placed in the hole with the roots and the bare branches covered and only the green tips showing.

As a last recommendation for care during planting, roots of these plants are fragile and should be handled carefully. They tolerate only a slight teasing of the roots if they do not appear root bound.



Nursery Sources

Local sources for heaths and heathers are few. Lowes generally sells blooming *Erica x darlyensis* in the spring. They are subject to branch splitting with freeze and thaw cycles in the winter and have a short life of a couple years. In the fall, Lowes sells heathers, usually bud bloomers, which hold their flowers for a long time. Locally, Nanticoke Gardens always has heathers for sale in the spring, though limited varieties and they sell out quickly. Our source for a greater variety of heaths and heathers is through Karla Lortz at Heath and Heathers in Washington State [HeathandHeathers.com]. She has a wide e variety at reasonable cost and very reasonable shipping costs.

A mass planting of heaths and heathers

BOTANICAL NAME CHANGES

John Gilrein

The subject of botanical name changes again reared its head at our October meeting. Why do botanical names seem to just keep changing? In the past, botanical names were based mainly on superficial characteristics, usually the anatomy of the flowers. Name changes in the not so recent past were frequently due to botanists finding that there were 2 different names for the same plant. In that case, the first name assigned would have precedence, and the later name assigned would be retired.

With greatly improved technology, DNA/genetics is behind more current name changes. Taxonomists prioritize evolutionary relationships and genetics over superficial characteristics like flowers. Will this end the classic battle between the taxonomist lumpers and splitters?

We don't necessarily love all the hard-to-keep-up-with name changes, especially when an easy to remember genus name (e.g. *Cornus*) changes to a long, complicated one (*Chamaepericlymenum*). One friend said we could consider it an exercise in mental acuity to keep up with the changes! It is likely that the nursery industry will stick with the familiar names (even if not currently correct) and the taxonomists and scientists will use the new, correct ones. We in the Adirondack Chapter are not publishing scientific treatises. It's good for us to use both the familiar and new botanical name when we can. We have been in the habit of also using the common names. Most important for us is communicating the name of the plant! When a plant's genus name is changed, often the species name remains the same (2 noted exceptions below). Since with Latin botanical names the species name has to agree with the gender of the genus (which may be masculine, feminine, or neuter), when the genus name changes the species name may have to reflect it's new gender.

Below are some plants with name changes; current/new names are in parentheses.

<i>Aster (Eurybia)</i>	<i>divaricatus (divaricata)</i>	White wood aster
<i>Aster (Symphotrichum)</i>	<i>novae-angliae</i>	New England aster
<i>Eupatorium (Eutrochium)</i>	Various species	Joe-pye-weed
<i>Cornus (Chamaepericlymenum)</i>	<i>canadensis</i>	Bunchberry
<i>Cornus (Swida)</i>	<i>alternifolia</i>	Alternate leaf dogwood
<i>Gentiana (Gentianopsis)</i>	<i>crinita</i>	Fringed gentian
<i>Lewisia (Lewisiopsis)</i>	<i>tweedyi</i>	Tweedy's bitterroot
<i>Osumunda (Osmundastrum)</i>	<i>cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon fern
<i>Perovskia (Salvia)</i>	<i>atriplicifolia (yangii)</i>	Russian sage
<i>Potentilla (Sibbaldia)</i>	<i>tridentata</i>	Three leaf cinquefoil
<i>Rosmarinus (Salvia)</i>	<i>officinalis (rosmarinus)</i>	Rosemary

NARGS & ACNARGS UPCOMING 2022 PROGRAMS

NOTE: As of now, we are planning in-person meetings this fall. Please take special note regarding meeting dates and locations because we have had to do some juggling and are not meeting at "our usual" time of the month or location.

November 1: Deadline (past) for seed to be received for the NARGS Seed Exchange.

November 13: Note, this is the 2nd Sunday! Note the location Whetzel Room, 404 Plant Science Building, Cornell University! Karen Perkins, owner of Garden Visions Epimediums, will speak and bring plants for sale. More about the nursery and Karen here: epimediums.com.

November 19: NARGS Rocks presents Geophytes (*short definition - "bulbs"*), a Virtual Study (Half-)Day beginning at 10a.m.. \$25 to NARGS members, more for non-members. Visit NARGS.org for more information. This Study Day will be recorded and available to those who register (either before Nov. 19 or once the recording is posted to the NARGS website).

December TBD: ACNARGS seed packaging session (likely in person) for the NARGS Seed Exchange.

January 14, 2023: NARGS Rocks: Small Woodies (Ericaceous plants, conifers, and more). Virtual Study Day. Registration fee charged. Visit NARGS.org for more information. This Study Day will be recorded and available to those who register.

February 25: NARGS Rocks: What's New in Rock Gardening (Building a moveable mountain, propagation techniques, and more). Virtual Study Day. Registration fee charged and recorded. Visit NARGS.org.

June 8-11 2023: Rocks, Plants, Habitats, NARGS Annual General Meeting hosted by Nova Scotia Chapter in Truro, Nova Scotia. Info <https://nargs23.org/>. Scroll down to watch the video – what a beautiful place! This should be an awesome meeting in an awesome location. Start planning now to attend. Registration to open in January, 2023.

CALENDAR OF SELECT GARDEN EVENTS

For the latest information, visit the websites of these gardening organizations.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County. Online class information:

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society monthly meetings – a hybrid of in-person and zoom: <https://flnps.org/> Recordings of past programs are available to view online.

Cornell Botanic Gardens: <https://cornellbotanicgardens.org/explore/events/>

Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/LHBGC/>

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

2022 ACNARGS BOARD MEMBERS AND CONTACTS

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

Chair (aka head honcho): John Gilrein, basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu
 Program Coordinator: Terry Humphries, terryehumphries@gmail.com
 Program Committee Members: Would you like to help? Share you speaker suggestions!
 Secretary: Currently rotating amongst "Responsible People"
 Treasurer (aka CFO): Marlene Kobre
 Plant Sales Chair: Carol Eichler carolithaca@gmail.com
 Plant of the Month: Marlene Kobre, mkobre@ithaca.edu
 Membership: Mary Stauble, mes2@cornell.edu
 New Member Hospitality: Graham Egerton, Anne Redfern
 Newsletter Editor: Open. Carol Eichler (temporary). We need someone to take on this responsibility!
 Book Order Manager: New NARGS program to offer NARGS' members select books at deeply discounted prices. New Chapter position. Looking for a volunteer!
 Webmaster, Program Tech: Craig Cramer, cdcramer@gmail.com

ABOUT US – ADIRONDACK CHAPTER NARGS

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, occasional overnight garden trips, hands-on workshops, two plant sales a year, and frequent plant giveaways. 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 \$15 a year based on the calendar year. Membership includes these benefits: newsletter sent to you electronically (or option by mail for an extra fee), invitations to our garden day trips, opportunity to travel on our planned overnight garden trips, annual membership directory, and plant sale discounts and member only sales, including Plant-of-the-Month sales.

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 focused on rock gardening, and an online website featuring a wealth of information including current and archived of Quarterly's, recordings of past study days and more. NARGS National also 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, NARGS is offering botanical tours each year, both within the US and abroad.

GREEN DRAGON TALES

Published eight times a year (Jan./Feb., March, April, May/June, July/Aug., Sept., Oct. Nov./Dec. Submit articles no later than the fourth Friday of the month preceding the monthly publication to Carol Eichler, carolithaca@gmail.com. Note: The next issue of *The Green Dragon* will be January 2023.

And the last page...

No Park—no Ring—no afternoon gentility—
No company—no nobility—
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease
No comfortable feel in any member—
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flow'rs, no leaves, no birds...
November!

~Thomas Hood (1799–1845)



Photo by John Gilrein

Solidago 'Fireworks' floral rays resemble explosive fireworks, making it a very striking garden plant in late summer. It is a slow spreader, but deadhead the flowers before they set seed.