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CHAPTER

*North American Rock Garden Society*

# Green Dragon Tales

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May 2012

## Special issue!

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## Greetings from the Chair!

*Carol Eichler, Chapter Chair*

There's so much happening in the next 2 months I thought a special issue of Green Dragon was warranted as a reminder. We don't want you to miss out on any of the exciting activities lined up!

### New Chair

At the April meeting Billie Jean Isbell resigned as our Chair and I was elected to fill the position. Starting with the next regular issue (July/August) Kathy Purdy will assume the editorship of Green Dragon. We couldn't be more pleased to welcome Kathy, with her amazing credentials as a garden writer and blogger (check out Cold Climate Gardening: [www.coldclimategardening.com](http://www.coldclimategardening.com)). We are especially appreciative that she has stepped up to assume this job. It's a big one.

### Stonecrop Trip

By the time this issue is sent out the day trip to Stone Crop will be history but expect an article and some photos about this trip in our next regular issue. Suffice it to say at this point, the Wurster Garden will definitely benefit with the purchase of some new rock garden plants.

### Trough Workshop

The May 5<sup>th</sup> trough workshop hosted by Bill Stark and Mary Stauble is coming soon. We are expecting a terrific turnout. Many thanks for Bill and Mary for all the exceptional research and preparation they put into this workshop and for welcoming so many of us to their home-under-construction.

### Plant Sale

The big Garden Fair and Plant Sale sponsored by Cooperative Extension is coming May 19<sup>th</sup>! Our booth at the plant sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year and in fact is what keeps our Chapter going financially. It is so important that I am reprinting information below from last month's newsletter with details about how you can participate.

### **Rochester Day Trip**

Plan to join us June 2<sup>nd</sup> for another day trip. We are planning a full day of plant delights including visits to Bristol's Nursery, Oriental Supply, Jerry Kral's garden, and more. If you plan to go, contact Billie Jean Isbell ([bjj1@cornell.edu](mailto:bjj1@cornell.edu) or 607-539-6484). She is arranging the itinerary and carpooling, leaving from Ithaca. We especially appreciate if you are willing to drive.

### **August Member-Only Sale and Picnic August 18**

After a summer hiatus while we busy ourselves with our own gardens, we'll meet again in August with our annual member-only plant sale and picnic. So mark your calendar for August 18<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be held at my house just 10 miles north of Ithaca and only 1½ miles from Taughannock State Park.

### **September Overnight Trip**

We are planning an overnight trip to New York City in September to include a volunteer stint at the New York Botanical Garden's Rock Garden. Details should be finalized and published in the next issue of the newsletter coming out later this month.

### **The Garden Rocks!**

The New York Botanical Garden is competing as one of 40 New York City historic places in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Partners in Preservation program. Vote for them daily between now and May 21, and they have the chance to win a grant to restore a piece of Nature's Showplace in New York City, the Rock Garden. Go to [www.nybg.org/vote](http://www.nybg.org/vote) to cast your vote.

That's all for now. I hope I haven't forgotten anything! I expect to see many of you at the above activities.

## **Carol**

Chapter Chair

### **Going to Pot for the May 19<sup>th</sup> Sale**

*David Mitchell*

Now is the time to divide and pot up any much-loved, surplus plants from your garden for our biggest plant sale of the year. Remember to use a soil-less mix and to label your plants (Latin names please) in advance. If you need labels, I have plenty to offer. Our booth has gained a reputation for our wide and varied offerings – not just rock garden plants – as well as rare or unusual species. Let's keep up that tradition!

You are encouraged to help with set up on Friday beginning at 4 p.m. and ending about 7 p.m. If you can't make it Friday, arrive before 8:30 on Saturday to drop off plants and help complete the setup. Alternatively, you may drop off plants at my home along the driveway any time before the day of the sale. My driveway is on the Washington Street side of the corner of Washington and Esty Streets (402 Esty Street). My phone number is 607-342-3660 should you have any questions about the sale. Tompkins County Cooperative Extension can be reached at 607-272-2292.

Of course, another great way to support the plant sale is to purchase plants from our booth. Members receive a 25% discount on their total purchase. Not a member yet? What better reason to join or renew. We will have membership forms at our booth as well. Tell your gardening friends to stop by too.

The May plant sale will be held on May 19, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., same location as last year, the New York State Armory, 1765 Hanshaw Road. Our plant sale booth will be located inside the large building at the Armory.

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## Calendar of Local Garden Events

May 11-20: Lilac Festival, Rochester NY. [www.lilacfestival.org](http://www.lilacfestival.org)

June 9-10, 2012 US National Bonsai Exhibition, The Fair Expo Center, Rochester, New York;  
[http://www.internationalbonsai.com/store/1708315/uploaded/2012\\_national\\_exhibition/index.html](http://www.internationalbonsai.com/store/1708315/uploaded/2012_national_exhibition/index.html)

Aug.4: [Garden Conservancy Open Days in Tompkins County](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)  
[<http://www.gardenconservancy.org>]: Admission to the garden is \$5. Visit 4 private gardens in Ithaca and Dryden.

### And looking further ahead...

Sept. 9: Gathering of Gardeners, Rochester NY

October 12-14: Autumn in the Garden – A Time for Troughs, NARGS Winter Study Week-end sponsored by Allegheny Chapter, Pittsburgh, PA

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## Responsible People/2012 Board Members

- Chair: Carol Eichler, [carolithaca@gmail.com](mailto:carolithaca@gmail.com)
- Program: John Gilrein, [basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu](mailto:basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu)
- Program Committee Members: Nari Mistry
- Secretary: Mary Stauble, [mes2@cornell.edu](mailto:mes2@cornell.edu)
- Treasurer: BZ Marranca, [mmm10@cornell.edu](mailto:mmm10@cornell.edu)
- Plant Sales Chair: David Mitchell, [dwm23@cornell.edu](mailto:dwm23@cornell.edu)
- Plant Sales Committee Members: Michael Loos, BZ Marranca
- Plant of the Month: John Gilrein, [basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu](mailto:basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu), Karen Hansen
- Membership: Mary Stauble, [mes2@cornell.edu](mailto:mes2@cornell.edu)
- New Member Hospitality: Judy Fogel, [jfogel@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jfogel@twcny.rr.com)
- Newsletter Editor (starting July): Kathy Purdy, [kathy@coldclimategardening.com](mailto:kathy@coldclimategardening.com)
- Newsletter Assistant (Calendar): Pat Curran, [pc21@cornell.edu](mailto:pc21@cornell.edu)
- Webmaster, Program Tech: Craig Cramer, [cdcramer@gmail.com](mailto:cdcramer@gmail.com)

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### Green Dragon Tales

Published eight times a year (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](mailto:carolithaca@gmail.com). Note: The next issue of The Green Dragon will be April 2012.

