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April 2023

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**APRIL 15: WHERE THE BLUE POPPIES GROW:
BOTANIZING IN WESTERN CHINA**

Terry Humphries, Program Chair; Photos courtesy Matt Matthus & Terry Humphries



Primula sikkimensis

Join us at 1:00 p.m. on April 15th in the Whetzel Room (404 Plant Science Building, 236 Tower Rd, Cornell University). Optional bring-your-own lunch starting at Noon. Drinks provided. Goodies always welcome for sharing.

Our April meeting features Matt Matthus recounting a NARGS tour of China. Matt will show stunning photos and film shorts from the 2018 NARGS expedition to fascinating high-elevation Himalayan biomes in western China and the borderlands of the Tibetan Autonomous region. Yunnan province is legendary as a region of immense interest to botanists and alpine gardeners. It is home to rhododendron, meconopsis, the famed blue poppy and easily 130 species of primula. The area's magnificent plants grow in dramatic surroundings, making it one of the most beautiful places on earth.



Corydalis benecinta



Rheum nobile (sikkum rhubarb)

The NARGS tour was described as follows; "The Snow Mountains of Yunnan are the southernmost extension of alpine flora in China: this region possesses some of the greatest biodiversity on the planet--here we'll follow George Forrest's, Kingdon-Ward's, Joseph Rock's (and Harry Jans') footsteps through several mountain ranges northward towards Tibet. Expect to see a vast range of *Primula*, *Androsace*, *Rhododendron* and plenty of Asiatic woodland plants such as *Roscoea*, *Rodgersia*, *Paeonia*, *Cyclopium*, *blue corydalis* and more treasures – all in full bloom.--a living encyclopedia of alpinists!" [Yes, we are sure to see some of those blue poppies too]

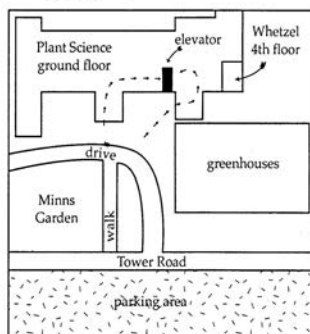
About Matt Mattus



Matt Matthus & his camera

Matt has an award-winning, very informative blog called "Growing with Plants" (www.growingwithplants.com). He has degrees in fine arts at Chaminade University of Honolulu and environmental science and botany at Unity College (Maine). He formerly had a long career as a futurist at Hasbro, the multinational toy and board game company. As a visual designer, artist, horticulturalist, he has won many national awards, and served as President of the North American Garden Society from 2014- 2017.

****NOTE: Our meetings are back at Whetzel Room,
Room 404 Plant Sciences Building
236 Tower Road, Cornell University! ****



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.

Just a reminder, we ask all attendees to be fully vaccinated. Additionally, we will be following CDC, NYS, and Cornell 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

It's wonderful to feel like spring is finally here. Many of my *Cyclamen coum* are in full bloom; a few are still under the remaining snow and those will be delayed a bit. My first crocus (*C. tommasinianus*) opened yesterday with more to follow. A few of the Lenten roses (*Helleborus x*) are starting to show color in their buds. I hope you are able to enjoy the first blooms of spring in your garden. This early in the year (I'm writing on March

23) it's too early for planting, but it's not too early for garden cleanup and weeding. The ground is loose from frost, and evergreen weeds are fairly easy to pull, things like garlic mustard in the woods and ground ivy that's always creeping into the garden beds. Perhaps I should do more edging? When it's warmer and planting time, I may not have time to go after all those weeds. Another timely task is removing the old leaves from Hellebores; I sometimes remove the old leaves from the hybrids but generally don't remove them from the Christmas roses (*H. niger*).



This winter I made 2 hypertufa troughs. If you have all the supplies at hand, including a mold, it is a fairly quick process. The first trough is 12 inches square and 8 inches high. Mixing the hypertufa and forming the trough took about an hour. I'm sure it's easier since I've done this multiple times. It's fine for the trough to be rustic (perhaps better for it to look handmade), so one doesn't have to fuss too much in order to achieve perfection. The finishing

(distressing, brushing, scratching, etc.) is a later step, which takes much less time than construction. (See the photos)

Some trough plants require more care: watering, maintenance, replacement, etc. There are some very easy, low maintenance trough plants that don't require much care, assuming you get the right sun/shade exposure.

Sempervivums and dwarf artemisias (like 'Seafoam') are good for full to half sun; they're drought tolerant. Succulents like *x Graptoveria*, *x Graptosedum*, and *Echeveria* are great for full to half sun and can survive on rainfall; they're not hardy much below freezing, so they can be grown as annuals or brought inside for the winter. The silver and Porophyllum (*Kabschia*) saxifrages are very low care when sited in half sun, or possibly just a few hours of sun. Small to medium ferns are good trough plants for shade, if you choose very hardy ones like *Asplenium trichomanes* (maidenhair spleenwort), *Dryopteris carthusiana* or *intermedia* (evergreen wood fern), *D. marginalis* (marginal wood fern); these do like moist soil but they're thrifty on water usage and don't need much supplemental watering.



I hope you'll soon be thinking about our May plant sale, and plants from your garden that you can divide for contributions to the sale. At this point, our standard protocol of barerooting contributions to the plant sale and potting in potting mix is necessary henceforth. Around mid-April and our upcoming meeting, more plants will be showing leaves and shoots; you don't have to wait until the leaves emerge before digging. I need to remind myself as much as anyone else about the cautions of spring: ticks and the sun. Ticks are becoming active, and it's time to start thinking again about sunscreen.

I'll see you in April.
John Gilrein, Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDARS : OUR PLANT SALE IS COMING MAY 20TH

Maybe I'm just too anxious but it hasn't seemed much like spring this past month. Sure, early bulbs have been blooming (some of them for weeks) but I long for the rock garden to awaken, and maybe even for some seeds to germinate outdoors. Is that asking too much?

So we may have to console ourselves with hope and anticipation. Speaking of anticipation, it will soon be time to start transplanting and potting up plants for our spring plant sale on May 20th. For consistency to help us all remember, this is the 3rd Saturday of the month, our "usual" meeting date each month.

For various reasons (the lingering threat of covid in large crowds being one of them), we have decided to limit our May plant sale to members only. It will be held May 20th at Myers Park in Lansing. If you know any non-member gardeners who might be interested in the sale, please invite them to come (with or without plants to offer). There's no shame in joining at the sale (the cost of \$15, can be easily recouped by our low prices) even if the motivation is to be able to participate in making purchases. We need buyers as well as donors

If you have attended the Myers Park plant sales since the covid years, there's not really much change. You can expect a broad selection of plants ranging from shade- and sun-loving perennials, to trees and shrubs, sometimes annuals and houseplants, and of course, what seems-to-be a growing number of rock or trough garden plants. We also plan to offer books from the ACNARGS library for sale. Note the Park charges admission for non-residents of the Town of Lansing.

Start thinking about the plants you will pot up. Think about what plants would be of greatest interest to our members (I know that is the big question!) and avoid large quantities of any one plant. Remember to wash the roots thoroughly and repot into soilless mix to avoid the spread of the invasive jumping worms. I expect many of our gardens have the worms so we do not want to spread them to gardens that are free of this annoying pest.

As imperfect as the system is, we will price by pot size because it saves us a lot of time and work. We do make exceptions for plants that may be over or undervalued by this method. These plants be individually marked and priced; often we have a table of free plants too. There will be a special table for rock garden plants.

Volunteers are needed to help with set-up starting at 9 a.m., cashiering at the end of the sale, and take down/clean-up, after which we all sit down to lunch. To help contact Plant Sale Coordinator Carol Eichler (carolithaca@gmail.com). It's been great to get the extra help!

The sale itself will start no earlier than 11 a.m. so that those not bringing plants will not miss out on the start. We also plan to run the sale in the same manner as past years, calling buyers to make their selections based on arrival order and limiting the number of selections through a series of selection rounds. This system helps to minimize an all-out plant grab.

Remarkably, by noon-ish the sale will be over and we'll enjoy lunch and more social time together. Our prices are not to be beat so please come and be prepared to buy, buy, and buy again.

How should we plan lunch this year? Do you all feel comfortable with a dish to share this year? Or should we all bring out own bag lunch? I for one have missed all the wonderful food we have shared together. Give us some feedback and we'll make a decision about how to proceed and post this information in the May newsletter.

WELCOME TO TOMPKINS POLLINATOR PATHWAYS

Brandon Hoak and the Tompkins Pollinator Pathway Team

Welcome to Pollinator Pathways!

Our preliminary goals are to:

1. Build a Pollinator Pathway (PP) community, comprised of individuals and organizations interested in sharing information and engaging in activities to support pollinator-friendly habitats in Tompkins County and beyond.
2. Map existing activities and habitats, to identify local resources, gaps, and goals.

Ultimately, we hope to collaborate to fill the gaps, linking habitat pieces to create a robust Pollinator Pathway (because many pollinators can't fly very far) and conserve local ecosystems. Since we are just getting started, we would appreciate your input as we shape our next steps. Please let us know what activities and resources would be of interest to you.

We plan to send monthly newsletters with information on how individuals can get involved in helping create the Tompkins Pollinator Pathway. We will include updates, tips, and resources on how you can support pollinators, and notify you of relevant local events.

[Pollinator Week](#) this year is from June 19th to June 25th. We would like to host some events that week and are eager to hear from you on activities you would be interested in and what you'd like to learn about. Feel free to send your ideas to this listserv by replying to this email, or directly to Brandon Hoak at bbh43@cornell.edu.

One recent event we'd like to highlight was a wonderful talk hosted by the Xerces Society, highlighting the research done by Pollinator Conservation Specialist, and NRCS Partner Biologist, [Kass Urban-Mead](#). The seminar focused on pollinators and their need for native woodland trees and wildflowers. It also highlighted the surprisingly important role these woodland native bee species play in supporting forest-edge agriculture through pollination. You can watch the entire talk here: <https://youtu.be/TfrpEBmSGOE>

We plan to share a noteworthy Pollinator and Native Plant pairing every month. Here are the pairings for March and April.

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Pollinator and Plant Pairings for March and April



Trout Lily. Photo by Mittswa, Wikipedia

Trout Lily, *Erythronium americanum* (March)

This Spring ephemeral native to our region bears a delicate yellow flower that hangs slightly down. Before maturation and blooming the plant bears only a single leaf, and upon maturation the plant develops a second leaf followed by a flower. The name "Trout Lily" comes from the plant's mottled leaves, which look like the markings on brook trout.



Trout Lily Mining Bee

Trout Lily Mining Bee. This specialist bee is seen in early spring and is associated with the Trout Lily. They are still seen on other spring ephemerals as well. The term 'mining bee' means that they are solitary, ground nesting bees, often establishing their homes in well-drained soils. For more specifics on how to identify them please follow this [link](#).

Our native plant and pollinator pairing for the month [April] is [skunk cabbage \(*Symplocarpus foetidus*\)](#) and [common green bottle fly \(*Lucilia sericata*\)](#). Skunk cabbage is a fascinating and odd species of native plant. The plant uses a process of thermogenesis to melt and push through the late season snow and ice. The increased temperature that radiates from within the flower provides a very hospitable environment for the pollinators who arrive in early spring. Additionally, the flower gives off a pungent fragrance, varying between scents of rotting meat, garlic, and apple, to attract specific pollinators such as the common green bottle fly, which mistake it for carrion. Flies, often overlooked, are fantastic pollinators for not only skunk cabbage but also for many native species, including late season plants like pawpaw and goldenrod. Skunk cabbage is an important native that provides early season pollinators with a source of sustenance, while simultaneously marking the beginning of spring for humans!



Skunk Cabbage blooming now; photo Wikipedia

ROCK GARDEN PLANT SOURCES

John Gilrein

Sources for Rock Garden Plants – March 2023

Below is a list of sources for rock garden plants, also including dwarf conifers and Japanese maples. If you know of other sources, please let me know. Many nurseries (local and mail order ones) selling herbaceous perennials sell a few plants appropriate

for a rock garden like *Campanula carpatica*, *Iberis sempervirens*, etc.; these are generally plants less fussy about drainage but are perhaps not as choice. All the nurseries listed here carry perennial plants other than alpiners. Wrightman's carries the largest selection of alpiners.

Key to Symbols: Starred* nurseries carry unique plants you might not find from a single other source. Nurseries tagged with a dollar sign \$ have very high prices on some plants (e.g. a \$100 mayapple). You need to make an appointment to visit those nurseries tagged with a # sign (these nurseries don't have regular open hours). Shipping from the west coast is expensive. When one of these nurseries sells a good variety of a particular interesting plant, I've noted it. One of the best deals for alpiners is our own plant sale! Note the Stonecrop plant sale brings together a number of nurseries with an emphasis on rock garden plants.

- Stonecrop Gardens, Cold Spring, NY [perennial plants, alpine plants, lewisias, they sell at their annual plant sale and throughout the season; no mail order]
- Oliver Nursery, Fairfield, CT [alpiners, troughs, perennials, no mail order]
- Topiary Gardens#, Marcellus, NY [Japanese maples, conifers]
- Coldwater Pond Nursery#, Phelps, NY [woody plants include many dwarf & grafted conifers]
- Oriental Garden Supply, Pittsford, NY [Japanese maples, conifers]
- O'Brien Nurserymen\$, Granby, CT [hostas, daphnes, woodland plants, no mail order, open on weekends]
- Carol Watson Greenhouse, Lafayette, NY [a few alpiners, sempervivums, tender succulents]
- Kingbird Farms, Berkshire, NY [limited alpiners, sells at Ithaca Farmer's Market on Saturdays or at the Farm; seed-grown so many not available until summer, no mail order]
- Odyssey Perennials*, Pawtucket, RI [interesting plants, some alpiners and primulas]
- Wrightman's Alpiners*, St. Andrew's, New Brunswick, Canada [alpiners, saxifrages]
- Surry Gardens, Surry, ME [alpiners, fantastic selection of perennials, no mail order]
- Arrowhead Alpiners, Fowlerville, MI [alpiners including daphne, perennials, woodland plants; they sell at the Stonecrop plant sale]
- Benedict's Nursery, Nappanee, IN [alpiners, great prices, no mail order]
- Gee Farms, Tipton, MI [woody plants, many dwarf conifers]
- Susanna Farm Nursery, Boyds, MD [dwarf conifers & Japanese maples, no mail order]
- Plant Delights*\$, Raleigh, NC [alpiners including ice plants and cyclamen]
- Dancing Oaks Nursery*, Monmouth, OR [alpiners, perennials, woodies]
- Edelweiss Perennials, Canby, OR [alpiners, cyclamen, daphnes, gentians, perennials]
- Far Reaches Farm*\$, Port Townsend, WA [alpiners, perennials, including plants new to cultivation]
- Sequim Rare Plants, Sequim, WA [alpiners, perennials, auriculas, semps, violets]
- High Country Gardens, Santa Fe, NM [alpiners and dryland plants]

Mail Order Bulb sources

These sources carry bulbs appropriate for a rock garden, like species tulips, species narcissi, oxalis.

- Brent & Becky's, Gloucester, VA
- McClure & Zimmerman, Randolph, WI
- John Scheepers, Bantam, CT

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator

We have no new members to report this month. We invite you to talk to your gardening friends to explain why you are a member and encourage them to join the Chapter. Even if they think they have no interest in rock gardening, our program speakers share their knowledge and the amazing plants and places they visit they share can't help but inspire us. Now that we are meeting again in person, getting together with other dedicated gardeners is also a big reason for joining.

If you have not yet renewed for 2023 dues are \$15 for individuals, \$20 for a household - perhaps you will be able to take advantage of our member benefits in 2023! That includes plant-of-the-month as an exclusive benefit for members only. Check my email announcement of the newsletter link for your membership status. The renewal form is at <http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf>. Contact Mary Stauble at mes2@cornell.edu if you have any questions.

PLANT OF THE MONTH: TRILLIUM ERECTUM

Marlene Kobre, POM Coordinator

For our April POM we're turning again to Arrowhead Alpines, which offers a good selection of trilliums in very reasonably priced bulk orders of bare-root plants. Brigitta Stewart, the owner, advised that it is too late to ship *Trillium cuneatum*, but not, I was relieved to learn, the red *Trillium erectum*.



Trillium erectum;
Photo courtesy
Arrowhead Alpines

The genus name comes from the Latin word "tres" (meaning three), which reminds us that all trillium share a similar structure: leaves, petals, and sepals all come in groups of 3. The rhizome sends up a single stem of 12-18", topped by a terminal whorl of 3 leaves. Some species produce the flower on a stalk (known as "peduncled") while others lack a stalk (known as "sessile"). The species name means "upright" to indicate that it is "peduncled," with the flowers growing on stalks.

Hardiness Zone: 5-8.

Height and Growth Habit: 12"-18" high and 9"-12" wide.

Bloom Time: April-May.

Leaf and Flower: One or two stems bear a whorl of three oval leaves. Maroon-red three petaled single flowers appear on stalks above the leaf bracts. The plants will die back during the summer, so be sure to mark their location.

Light: Part shade to full shade.

Soil and Moisture: Plant in a deep, organically rich soil that is well drained but consistently moist. Will tolerate somewhat acid conditions and appreciates leaf mulch in fall. If not disturbed it might spread, albeit slowly.

Problems: No serious pests or disease issues, but watch out for slugs and snails.

Origin: Native to southeastern U.S. but definitely hardy to Zone 5. (The Missouri Botanic Garden says it is hardy to zone 4.)

Sources for Trillium Information: Missouri Botanic Garden Website and Arrowhead Alpines

HOW TO CARE FOR BARE ROOT PLANTS

The Trillium from Arrowhead will be shipped bare rooted, so here are some tips about caring for them. If the ground is still frozen when they arrive, you can dampen the packing medium with water and store the bag for a few days in a cold but not freezing basement, garage, or fridge. If the ground remains frozen, you can also get a head start by potting the plants in a container a couple of inches wider than the root ball and growing them in a bright window (unless you're lucky enough to have a greenhouse). Before transplanting outside, preferably when the temperature has reached the 40's, gently rinse the potting medium from the roots and soak them for 30 minutes or so in a bucket of tepid water to plump them up.

BALTIMORE WOODS: WORTH A VISIT

John Gilrein

Baltimore Woods is a 270 acre nature preserve in Marcellus, NY. It's also a cooperative venture between the Central NY Land Trust (which owns much of the land) and Baltimore Woods (which owns the buildings, some of the land, maintains the property, and runs education programs and day camps). It's at 4007 Bishop Hill Road in Marcellus, NY, and an hour's drive from downtown Ithaca. You can find information and good color trail maps at the website: <https://baltimorewoods.org/>. There are over 5 miles of trails, from short to the longest at 1.7 miles. It's free to visit, and open dawn to dusk for walking/hiking. Collecting plants and bringing dogs are not allowed on the preserve. There are 2 visitor parking lots: an upper parking lot, and a lower one.

There are a variety of habits onsite including mature hardwood forest, wetlands (including a large, rich sloping fen), meadows, including a dry meadow in an old quarry, and old agricultural fields (restoration to woodland has started), and a gravel pit. The rich sloping fen is fenced to exclude deer, and thus not easy to access. Work is ongoing to remove invasive honeysuckle, buckthorn, barberry, bittersweet, swallowwort, garlic mustard, and others. Though the whole preserve shows signs of human impact, some of the hardwood forest is lushly vegetated with ferns and wildflowers, and staff believe some of the forested areas were never clear cut. In spite of the deer presence, there is still a healthy population of spring wildflowers including trillium, violets, pyrola, spring beauty, hepatica, waterleaf, and others. The trilliums include both *T. grandiflorum* (large white trillium) and *T. erectum* (red trillium/wake robin); there are even a few of the paler *T. erectum* with flowers that are white or pink. The woodlands also include a lot of ferns including *Asplenium platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort), *Deparia acrostichoides* (silvery glade fern), *Diplazium pycnocarpon* (narrow leaved glade fern), and *Dryopteris goldiana* (Goldie's fern).

Here are some suggestions for trails including what you might see on each:

- Starting at the upper lot, take the Upper Valley Trail to the Faust Garden. This is a short, level trail that loops through the woods. Many of the ferns and wildflowers are labeled on this trail only.
- Starting at the upper lot, take the Lower Valley Trail across the brook and return via the Upper Valley Trail (UVT) length 0.5 miles, down and up a big hill. You'll find the glade ferns in the bottomland and many wildflowers on the hill up along the UVT.
- Starting at the lower lot, go left, staying low, on the Boundary Trail (BT) and go right on the Overlook Trail (OT), length about 1 mile, including the access from the BT. NOTE the OT is a loop with 3 connections to the BT, so the map is helpful. The OT includes 3 overlooks, and a section approximately called Trillium Knoll, one of the best spots to see wildflowers. The 2 higher overlooks are atop dry sandy areas that are unusual at the preserve.
- Starting at the upper lot, take the Backyard Wildlife Trail to the Harrison Trail (HT) length about 1 mile. The HT has 3 connections to other trails, so the map will be helpful. Most of the HT is new and has views into the Baltimore Brook valley.

I'm a volunteer at Baltimore Woods, so if you have questions about the preserve, I may be able to help. Explore more info on their website: <https://baltimorewoods.org/>

NARGS & ACNARGS UPCOMING 2023 PROGRAMS

NOTE: As of now, we are meeting in-person at Cornell in the Whetzel Room and not recording the sessions.

April 15: Matt Matthus, highlights from the NARGS-sponsored trip to alpine China. We will not have another speaker program meeting until September.

April 28-29: ACNARGS overnight trip to gardens at Stonecrop, Wave Hill, New Jersey Botanical Gardens, and nurseries. If interested, contact John Gilrein for details.

May 20: ACNARGS plant sale at Myers Park, Lansing. (See newsletter article this issue)

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

August 26: Annual Member Only Plant Sale, Myers Park Pavilion. Note this is the 4th Saturday of the month.

September 28 (tentatively): Gerard van Buiton, NARGS Traveling Speaker from the Netherlands. Note this is the 4th Saturday of the month.

October 21: Program meeting, speaker to be announced.

November 11: Program meeting, speaker to be announced Note this is the 2nd Saturday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

CALENDAR OF SELECT GARDEN EVENTS

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

April 29: Stonecrop Gardens annual plant sale. <https://www.stonecrop.org/>

May 14: Mothers Day Garden Tour at Sycamore Hill (<https://baltimorewoods.org/mothers-day-garden-tour-at-sycamore-hill-gardens/>); benefit for Baltimore Woods

May 19: Cornell Cooperative Extension Garden Fair and Plant Sale at Ithaca Farmers Market at Steamboat Landing, Ithaca.. D12 – 6p.m.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County. Online class information: ccetompkins.org

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/>

Habitat Gardening in CNY, local Wild Ones Chapter: <https://www.hgcny.org/>

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 your 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 May 2023.



Prayer Flags in China
