

May/June 2023

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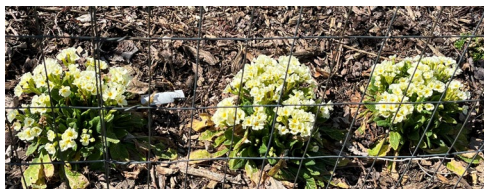
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MAY 20 – MEMBER PLANT SALE

Spring is in the air (or did we just skip directly to summer?). May is one of the gardener’s busiest months – transplanting, weeding, mulching, etc. but the most fun of all at this time of year is buying new plants. ACNARGS is happy to feed your buying frenzy with our annual May plant sale.

This year our sale is for members only on Saturday, May 20 at the same large pavilion at Myers Park, near the marina. (snow blizzard or flooding notwithstanding) that we’ve used the last few years. Note: Unless you are a resident of the Town of Lansing, the park charges admission of \$7 per car. Bring plants or not; be prepared to buy; bring a friend. (optional);

As in past years we can expect a broad selection of plants, not just those for the rock garden. The sale also becomes a learning experience since every year it seems rare or unusual plants are brought in (and at least for me, some I am unfamiliar with). As a well-known gardener once said, “You should buy the plants to be reminded that the sale of income for the Chapter. you don’t know.” It’s good is also a significant source We price to sell.



Look for these *Primula vulgaris* at the plant sale. They will be through blooming and they need dividing

Volunteers: Thank you to those who answered the call for helping with set-up, cashiering, and clean-up. I could still use a few more people to assist either with set-up beginning at 9 or clean-up.

Lunch: We want to resume our traditional dish-to-pass lunch. This will be the first since Covid. Out of an abundance of caution we temporarily replaced the potluck with BYO bag lunch. The chapter will provide beverages. Remember to bring your own table setting!

Here's the schedule for May 20th

- 9:00 a.m. Set-up begins at Pavilion B at Myers Park, Lansing
- 10:00 a.m. Plan to arrive if you are bringing plants
- 10:30 a.m. Sale begins no earlier than 10:30 (or a bit later if need be)
- 12:00 p.m. Sale concludes, cashier opens to take your payment, and clean-up begins (with lots of helpers this will go fast); if we finish earlier, we eat earlier!
- 12:30 Dish-to-Pass, relax, socialize.

Advanced Logistics: Now is the time, if you haven't already started, to pot up plants for the sale. To minimize the spread of jumping worms, remember to bare-root each plant before potting it into a soil-less potting mix. (If you do not have jumping worms in your garden, we also suggest bare rooting any plant purchases before setting them out in your garden.)

Label your plants in advance please. Consider what plants you should bring and focus on plants that are not so common, Think small quantities! If you are not able to attend, please consider donating plants anyway and asking a fellow member to bring them.

Day of Sale Logistics: As you arrive, we ask that you place the plants that you bring on the appropriate tables, which will have signage so plants will be in roughly alphabetical order. Our sale procedure will be essentially the same as previous years (please refer to May 2022 Green Dragon at acnargs.org newsletter archives).

Auction Table: Special plants should be placed on the bid table.

Directions to Myers Park and the Pavilion Take 34B (whether approaching from the north or south). Before the bridge over Salmon Creek, turn onto Myers Road, towards the lake. If you miss the turn, this road forms a loop so it intersects 34B again after you cross the bridge. The entrance to Myers Park is ahead at the stop sign on Myers Road. You will cross the railroad tracks. Pavilion B is located near the marina with ample parking available.

Carol Eichler, Plan Sale Coordinator

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

May 2023 From the Chair Spring is in full swing with magnolia trees, narcissi, and primroses blooming. The hot days of the previous week were nice for dining al fresco but not so great for inspiring outdoor work, or longevity of the flowers. It seems like we're having a bit of Great Plains weather, cold today (still in the 30s in the morning April 20) and expecting it to be hot tomorrow (low 80s). I'm happy for one bonus: no frost damaging the saucer magnolia (*Magnolia asoulangiana*), which always looks so sad when the large blossoms turn brown and droopy. My tree, though cold, still looks glorious!

Be sure to read about our plant sale coming up May 20, usual time and place. We decided to include a dish-to-pass enjoy more company there was never enough which is always an event plants that are difficult leftover NARGS seeds during the plant sale.



lunch after the plant sale, a good way to socialization time during the plant sale, to get plants at bargain prices, along with (or impossible) to find elsewhere. The from the seed exchange should be available

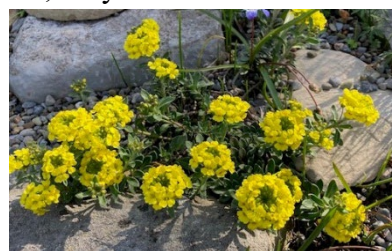
My seed starting is the seed exchange in February, and the pots have been outdoors now for over 2 months, except for the Drabas, which don't need stratification. I don't expect everything to germinate, so I'm pretty



happy now with a dozen or so pots with germination, and expecting more germination when the weather is more consistently warm. I'm hoping to keep these new plants going until the August plant sale; maybe some of the drabas will be big enough to bring in May. It's hard to know why some of the seeds don't germinate. My theory is that it was a combination of me tending to plant too deeply (until this year), and the viability of some seeds being poor. Well, if they ALL germinated, would I have time to deal with hundreds of seedlings?

going well this year. I sowed seeds from the seed exchange in February, and the pots have been outdoors now for over 2 months, except for the Drabas, which don't need stratification. I don't expect everything to germinate, so I'm pretty happy now with a dozen or so pots with germination, and expecting more germination when the weather is more consistently warm. I'm hoping to keep these new plants going until the August plant sale; maybe some of the drabas will be big enough to bring in May. It's hard to know why some of the seeds don't germinate. My theory is that it was a combination of me tending to plant too deeply (until this year), and the viability of some seeds being poor. Well, if they ALL germinated, would I have time to deal with hundreds of seedlings?

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We are planning a field trip to see plants in the wild to Labrador Pond (between Truxton and Fabius) and Clark Reservation (Jamesville). I've done a little research on what to expect in the way of interesting plants at Labrador Pond (two are pinxter azaleas and Labrador tea, both rhododendrons); I'm more familiar with Clark Reservation, known for its rare ferns, hart's tongue (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) and walking fern (*Asplenium rhizophyllum*). We're still working on a date, I'm thinking May would be best. If you were NOT at the April 15 meeting and are interested in this trip, please email me, and you'll be included in the email announcements.

There is no planned garden tour event for 2023; so far no volunteer for this. However, if you would like to see some gardens, there are other options. Check the Garden Conservancy's website and you can find both local and farther afield gardens with their open dates. Contact another chapter member or two and find out if you can visit the person's garden. Most of us who toil in our gardens like to share them with like-minded visitors! The email addresses of our members are in the Member Directory, along with an indication if the person has an open garden (willing to receive visitors, assuming the date is planned). Don't have the directory? Email me for a copy.

Hope you have bountiful blooms and see you in May!

John Gilrein, Chair

CHANGES TO THE GREEN DRAGON

We welcome the return of Susanne Lipari who as stepped up as editor of the Green Dragon Tales. She may add some personal touches at her prerogative but otherwise you can expect the newsletter to appear in your Inbox as usual, in an email from Membership Chair Mary Stauble.

Our Chapter publishes this newsletter 8 times a year (although monthly during the pandemic). Besides being the go-to source for Chapter activities like our program speakers, plant sales, plant-of-the-month selections and of course From the Chair, it has included informative articles written by our members or sometimes reprinted from other sources. The length of the newsletter often

exceeded 12 or more pages. It became a lot of work to compile for a limited readership of about 100. We got the sense that for some it may have felt too long to read.

So we've decided to shorten the newsletter and return to basics – that is, the basic information you need to know about what's happening with the Chapter month to month. We will use the ACNARGS [online] member forum for posting articles that might have otherwise appeared in the newsletter. At present there are about 25 members signed up for the Forum. It is a closed, by-invitation-only Goggle group. If you are interested in joining the group forum (or at least checking it out), contact Carol Eichler (carolithaca@gmail.com) who is the group administrator.

Most days there are postings, but rather than receive an email for each posting, you can opt to receive a daily digest (that means only 1 email a day). The forum is a great place to ask a question, share an experience, or recommend a good website or article. Sometimes there are some lively interactive discussions. In other words, the forum serves as just another way to connect with other gardeners between Chapter meetings.

Carol Eichler

MEMBERSHIP

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.

Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator

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.

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 is open now. 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 AREA GARDEN EVENTS

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

May 14: Mother's 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, 12 – 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 Susanne Lipari
sel3@cornell.edu

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: Susanne Lipari, sel3@cornell.edu

Wurster Garden Coordinator: Carol Eichler

Wurster Volunteers: Elaine Caso, Ellen Lane, Sheila Stone; Others always welcome! Contact Carol Eichler if you wish to be added to the email list.

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 Susanne Lipari, sel3@cornell.edu.