

Renee's Garden Helps Celebrate Seed Exchange's Golden Anniversary



FOR 50 YEARS, the American Horticultural Society's members have shared thousands of seeds through the annual Seed Exchange. This year, there are nearly 200 different varieties of annuals, perennials, shrubs, vegetables, and more to choose from, donated by 2009 Seed Exchange sponsor **Renee's Garden**, and other companies, organizations, and AHS members.

In celebration of the program's Golden Anniversary, the first 300 AHS members to submit orders for this year's seeds will receive complimentary 'Pot of Gold' Swiss chard seeds from Renee's Garden, a nationally acclaimed purveyor of heirloom and cottage garden flower, herb, and vegetable seeds. Additionally, Seed Exchange participants who donate \$25 or more to support the program will receive a complimentary copy of one of owner Renee Shepherd's cookbooks.

The catalog of available seeds and order form are available in the "members only" section of the AHS website. If you don't have access to the Internet, you can request a catalog and order form be mailed to you by calling (703) 768-5700 ext. 115 or send an e-mail to jgagliardi@ahs.org.

The first 300 AHS members who place orders in the 2009 Seed Exchange will receive 'Pot of Gold' Swiss chard seeds from Renee's Garden as a special golden anniversary gift.

AHS Board of Directors Updates

SIX NEW MEMBERS were recently elected to join the AHS Board of Directors. Offering a wide range of experience and expertise, they are: **Henrietta Burke** of Alexandria, Virginia; **Tom Cooper** of Watertown, Massachusetts; **Gay Estes** from Houston, Texas; **Anne Garland Farrell** of Richmond, Virginia; **Jack Lowry** from Phoenix, Maryland; and **Mary Pat Matheson** of Atlanta, Georgia.

The Society extends special thanks and appreciation to the eight board members whose terms ended last fall: **Arabella S. Dane**, **Carol C. Morrison**, **Katherine Stark Bull**, **John Alex Floyd, Jr.**, **Howard McK. Tucker**, **Jeanne Shields**, **Robert D. Volk**, and **Daryl Williams**.

"Our outgoing board members have all helped the AHS to make significant strides forward programmatically, strategically, and financially," says AHS Executive Director **Tom Underwood**, "and we look forward to continuing the Society's success and growth with our new members."

AHS Represented at Climate Change Conference

LAST NOVEMBER, nearly 100 meteorological experts, scientists, and green industry members participated in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) conference, "Climate Change & The Plant Sector," held in Asheville, North Carolina. Among the attendees were leaders in landscape architecture, public gardens, plant nurseries, and land conservation, including AHS Executive Director **Tom Underwood**.

"Climate change is having an undeniable influence on gardening because it is altering the traditional range and garden adaptability of plants," says Underwood. "The AHS will make it a priority to stay informed on this issue and help increase awareness of how gardeners and the plant industry can play an important role in slowing the pace of climate change."

The conference also commemorated the new U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN), which is a network of climate observation stations established to monitor temperature and precipitation at 114 sites across the United States to track climate change trends. To learn more about the USCRN, visit www.ncdc.noaa.gov.

Upcoming Webinars

SINCE LAUNCHING in 2007, the AHS webinar program has offered seven free online seminars exclusively for its members on topics from native plants to garden design techniques.

In 2009, the AHS is planning four new webinars. Though the dates are still being finalized, these will include presentations on drought tolerant plants by garden designer, author, and plantsman **Scott Calhoun**; sustainable gardening strategies by **Doug Tallamy**, author of *Bringing Nature Home*; and creating well designed outdoor spaces by author and garden designer **Julie Moir Messervy**. For more information, or to sign up to receive webinar invitations, visit the members-only section of the AHS website (www.ahs.org).



Julie Moir Messervy

2009 National Children & Youth Garden Symposium

EACH YEAR the American Horticultural Society's National Children & Youth Garden Symposium takes place in a different city, hosted by gardens and organizations that are active in the youth gardening movement. From July 23 to 25, the 17th annual symposium, "Common Ground: Gardens for a Greener Tomorrow" will be hosted by Cleveland Botanical Garden (CBG) in Ohio.

"Without question, CBG has been a national leader in youth gardening for the past decade," says AHS Education Programs Manager **Stephanie Jutila**. "The American Horticultural Society is pleased to bring the 2009 symposium to Cleveland as a way to celebrate the 10th anniversary of CBG's Hershey Children's Garden and showcase a number of innovative programs that are engaging Cleveland's youth."

The event will include lectures, workshops, and field trips that will explore how gardens bring communities together to provide effective learning experiences for children and youth.

For more information, e-mail youthprograms@ahs.org or call (703) 768-5700 ext. 121.

AHS Receives Fruehling Bequest

THE AHS recently received a bequest of more than \$180,000 from the estate of **Louise Carolyn Fruehling**, which will be

NEW MEMBER PASSWORD FOR WEBSITE

ON THE AHS WEBSITE, there is a special password-protected section just for members that contains convenient access to membership benefits and exclusive offerings. These include access to the Seed Exchange catalog and order form, webinar registration, and discounts on AHS books as well as other gardening products. By using the password, AHS members also get complete access to the online edition of *The American Gardener*—this includes all the magazine issues since January/February 2001.

To access the members-only area of the AHS website, the username is always **ahs**. The password changes at the beginning of every year; effective February 2, 2009, the password is **seeds**. Both the username and password must be entered in all lowercase letters. In case you forget, the password is listed on page 4 of each issue of the magazine.

used to support the Society's educational programs and the stewardship of River Farm.

Born in Steger, Illinois, in 1913, Fruehling spent most of her life in Chicago, where she worked for Marshall Field's department store. After retiring, she moved to Sun City West, Arizona, where she died on January 1, 2008. A former AHS member, Fruehling had an enduring passion for flowers and gardening, according to her friend **Janice Hjelmgren**, who

go GREEN with the AHS

This summer, join the American Horticultural Society for two special programs that will focus on earth-friendly ideas and techniques for making your garden look great while reducing its environmental footprint.

Community Green

June 14, 2009
River Farm,
Alexandria, Virginia

* Enjoy festive and fun green activities and interactive demonstrations for all ages in the gardens.

For more information, or to participate as a speaker or vendor, visit www.ahs.org or call (703) 768-5700 ext. 115.



Green Garage: Sustainable and Earth-friendly Solutions for the Landscape

An AHS Garden School presented in partnership with the City of Alexandria
June 27, 2009
Lee Center, Alexandria, Virginia

* A day filled with lectures and hands-on workshops plus an exhibit hall featuring companies and organizations that offer green products, services, and tools.

For more information, visit www.ahs.org or call (703) 768-5700 ext. 137.



received many passalong plants from Fruehling when the two were neighbors in Chicago.

For more information on planned giving to the AHS, contact **Stephanie Perez** at (703) 768-5700 ext. 127 or sperez@ahs.org.

Sign Up for New Online Newsletter

IN ORDER TO KEEP members, donors, and friends better informed, this past fall the AHS launched a new e-newsletter, issued monthly. The *AHS e-Bulletin* contains the latest updates about the Society's national programs and activities as well as happenings at its River Farm headquarters. If you would like to sign up to receive the newsletter, please send an email to membership@ahs.org and be sure to put "newsletter" in the subject line.

Spring Plant Sale at River Farm

THE AHS'S annual spring plant sale will be expanded this year to include a variety of new vendors and special events. Renamed the Spring Garden Market to encompass all of this, the event will



A variety of plants and gardening items will be available during the AHS Spring Garden Market at River Farm in April.

take place at the AHS's River Farm headquarters on April 17 and 18. Plant vendors from around the Mid-Atlantic region will offer exciting new cultivars of annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, vines, and vegetables, as well as traditional standbys. There will also be a book signing by **Jeff Kirwin**, author of *Remarkable Trees of Virginia*, presented by the Fairfax County Tree Commission.

AHS members are invited to a special preview night on April 16 from 4 to 8 p.m., which will include a silent auction of unique garden goods and a talk by **David J. Ellis**, AHS director of communications and editor of *The American Gardener* magazine.

Visit www.ahs.org or call (703) 768-5700 for more information on the plant sale.

Dr. H. Marc Cathey Day Lecture Focuses on Flowers

THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION of Dr. H. Marc Cathey Day this past October was somewhat subdued, understandably, given that the event took place only two weeks after the death



AHS NATIONAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

2009 CALENDAR

Mark your calendar for these national events that are sponsored or co-sponsored by the AHS. Visit www.ahs.org or call (703) 768-5700 for more information.

- MARCH 18–MAY 31.

Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival. Lake Buena Vista, Florida.



- APRIL 17 & 18.

Spring Garden Market.

River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia. (Note: AHS members-only preview sale is Thursday, April 16 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.)

- MAY 1. **Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium.**

Williamsburg, Virginia.

- MAY 17. **Friends of River Farm Family Picnic.** River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

- JUNE 4. **Great American Gardeners Awards Ceremony and Banquet.** River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

- JUNE 14. **Community Green.** River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

- JUNE 27. **AHS Garden School: Green Garage: Sustainable and Earth-friendly Solutions for the Landscape.** Lee Center, Alexandria, Virginia.



- JULY 23–25. **National Children & Youth Garden Symposium.** Cleveland, Ohio.

- AUG. 21–23. **The Homestead's 11th Annual "In the Garden With the Experts" Symposium.** Hot Springs, Virginia.

- SEPT. 19. **AHS Annual Gala.** River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

- OCT. 1–3. **America In Bloom Symposium and Awards Ceremony.** Hershey, Pennsylvania.

- OCT. 23. **Dr. H. Marc Cathey Day.** River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

of the former AHS President. The event, held each year on October 23 in celebration of Dr. Cathey's birthday, featured a colorful presentation on "The Science and Magic of Flowers," by AHS President Emeritus **Katy Moss Warner**. As a tribute to Dr. Cathey's life and work, Warner also shared some memories of him and his exuberant passion for plants, as did a few audience members, including renowned landscape architect **James van Sweden** and **Holly Shimizu**, executive director of the U.S. Botanic Garden.

Established in 2005 upon Dr. Cathey's retirement from the AHS and a long career of horticultural research, Dr. H. Marc Cathey Day features lectures that emphasize the science and art of horticulture.

Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium in May



Renee Shepherd

MAY DAY is a fitting date for one of the country's longest running gardening programs, the 63rd annual Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium, "The Natural Rhythm of Gardening," co-sponsored by the AHS and *Fine Gardening* magazine. This May 1 event will include presentations by noted landscape architect and author **James van Sweden**; **Renee Shepherd** of Renee's Garden seed

company; horticulturist and author **Felder Rushing**; and **David Howard**, former head gardener for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall.

This year's program will address ways to employ the natural cycles of plants to create beautiful and ecologically sound gardens. Optional tours of public and private gardens and national parks will be offered on April 30 and May 2. A registration discount is available for AHS members by contacting Colonial Williamsburg at (800) 603-0948. Visit www.history.org/conted for more information.

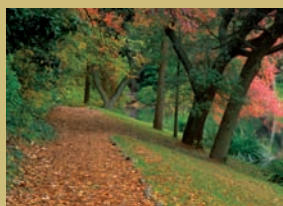
Grant to Fund Future AHS Library

THE AHS received notification in November that it is the recipient of a grant from the **Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust**. The grant will be used for the initial development stages of a planned horticultural reference library to be established at the Society's River Farm headquarters.

The library facility will house special collections of books in subject areas that include children's gardening, botany, the history of American horticulture, and related subjects. These will include autographed copies of books by noted horticultural visionaries such as Liberty Hyde Bailey and more than 1,000 books donated to the AHS from the personal collection of **Jane L. Taylor**, the founder and former curator of the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden at Michigan State University.

Established in 1970 by **May Smith**, the Stanley Smith Hor-

63RD ANNUAL COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG GARDEN SYMPOSIUM



THE NATURAL RHYTHM OF GARDENING

May 1, 2009

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Felder
Rushing



David
Howard



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ticultural Trust “supports education and research in ornamental horticulture.”

Garden Photography Contest

IF YOU LIKE TO wander through gardens with your camera at the ready, then you may want to enter The Gardeners of America/Men’s Garden Clubs of America (TGOA/MGCA) annual horticultural photography competition. Through special arrangement, the contest is open to AHS members and the \$15 entry fee includes a one-year membership in the TGOA/MGCA. Categories range from roses to landscapes, and winning photographs may be selected for inclusion in a calendar the organization sells annually as a fundraiser. The deadline for submissions is February 13, 2009. Call (515) 278-0295 or visit www.tgoa-mgca.org for additional information and contest rules.

America In Bloom Contest

THE DEADLINE TO enter your community in the 2009 America in Bloom (AIB) competition is February 28. AIB is a national contest that encourages stronger, more beautiful communities by fostering civic pride and economic development.

Communities are rated by population size and eight special categories, such as the AHS-sponsored Community Involvement Award. Since 2001, nearly 25 million people in 160 communities nationwide have participated in the program. Winners will be revealed at the AIB symposium and awards program scheduled for October 1-3, 2009 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. To learn more, call (614) 487-1117 or visit www.americainbloom.org.

2009 Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival

THE 16TH ANNUAL Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, will showcase environmentally friendly gardening techniques. Held from March 18 to May 31, 2009, it will feature a “Green Garden” to demonstrate how anyone can create an environmentally friendly garden by using less water, planting native plants, and even recycling. A “Special Environmentality Celebration” from April 24 to 26 will showcase practical methods for reducing waste and other sustainable gardening techniques. Call (407) 934-7639 or visit www.disneyworld.com/flower for more information.

News written by Editorial Assistant Caroline Bentley.

Gifts of Note

In addition to vital support through membership dues, the American Horticultural Society relies on grants, bequests, and other gifts to support its programs. We would like to thank the following donors for gifts received between October 1, 2008 and November 30, 2008.

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Mrs. Carolyn M. Lindsay
Ms. Renee Shepherd

In honor of Arabella Dane
Green Fingers Garden Club
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In honor of Stephanie Jutila
Alexandria Council of Garden Clubs

In memory of Dr. Henry Marc Cathey
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Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Matheson

In memory of Frances Jones Poetker
Mr. James L. Johnson

In memory of Katherine Wimert
Ms. Karen Brown

If you would like to support the American Horticultural Society as part of your estate planning, as a tribute to a loved one, or as part of your annual commitment to charitable giving, please contact: Stephanie Perez, (703) 768-5700 ext. 127 or sperez@ahs.org.