



# ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

*North American Rockgarden Society*

## *Green Dragon Tales*

*June and July 2004*

### **Adirondack Chapter**

#### **CHAPTER CONTACTS**

Chair: Michelle Jones Ham  
[JonesHamM@schneider.com](mailto:JonesHamM@schneider.com)  
607-733-7034

Program Chair: Anne Klingensmith  
[aekling@lightlink.com](mailto:aekling@lightlink.com)  
607-256-9308

Treasurer/Secretary: Carol Eichler  
[cme24@cornell.edu](mailto:cme24@cornell.edu)  
607-387-5823

Membership: Arthur Trimble  
[Atrimbl1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Atrimbl1@rochester.rr.com)  
585-271-7820

Executive Members at Large:  
-Jerry Yaeger  
[jay7@cornell.edu](mailto:jay7@cornell.edu)  
607-844-9462

-Roseanne Moresco  
[rmoresco@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rmoresco@twcny.rr.com)  
607-257-6198

Plant Sales: Tom Myers  
[Robinia@lightLink.com](mailto:Robinia@lightLink.com)  
607-273-2865

Editor: Susanne Lipari  
[sel3@cornell.edu](mailto:sel3@cornell.edu)  
607-387-9308

Plant Orders: Billie-Jean Isbell  
[bjj1@cornell.edu](mailto:bjj1@cornell.edu)  
607-539-6484

Webmaster: Craig Cramer  
[cdcramer@twcny.rr.com](mailto:cdcramer@twcny.rr.com)

### ***Letter from the Chair***

Greetings all, I hope that everyone enjoyed the May plant sale and that many of you brought home treasures that will add beauty to your garden. Now start thinking about the August sale, dig, divide, pot up.

I'm looking forward to the July picnic at the Yeager's. Jerry always brings huge clumps of *Sarracenia purpurea* to the sales. Recently I took a hike through the woodland near my new home and I was enthralled by the Skunk Cabbage, False Hellebores, Jack-in-the-Pulpits, and what appeared to be acres of Trillium.

Just a reminder that if you haven't paid your dues or filled out a membership form, please do so. We are trying to insure our records are accurate. Also, if you have paid your dues and have not received the new Membership Handbook, let us know, the Handbook is a great reference tool for members, we want to make sure that paid members have this resource.

I am ready for the Spring weather to turn over into summer. Lots of Spring rain has made for frequent mowing, high grass between raindrops and mosquitoes galore. I am struggling to keep the plants I dug up from my old garden thriving. My new property is more shady than I had thought so plans are in place to limb up desirable trees, cut down undesirable trees and open the yard up to more sunlight. I do have a pile of rocks collected from a neighboring quarry to get the new rock garden started. For those of you that had visited my garden in Pine City, the new one will have fewer rocks!

See you all at the picnic.

*Michelle*

## Plant Sale Update

The Chapter has held two plant sales in two months. First came the seedling sale in April, only the third year in which we have offered this. It became an instant success – a new revenue stream for the Chapter and a way to introduce more members to rock garden plants (not to mention offering an outlet for a plethora of seedlings). For me, it became the motivation to participate in the NARGS seed exchange and get involved in growing plants from seed, again. This year's sale netted \$186 – not bad given the price of 70 cents per seedling. This year that calculates to 240 plants contributed and sold.

Our second plant sale in as many months was the Chapter table at the Cooperative Extension's annual garden fair held at Ithaca High School on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This event has been held for many years and is easily the largest, best-attended one-day spring plant sale in the area. People who garden come to buy. The Chapter's table is one of the more sought after because of the wonderful and unusual plants we offer, thanks to the generosity of our members' donations. This year was no exception. We grossed \$1,367 from the 4-hour

event. However, historically, this was not one of our best years.

This year the number of plants offered was noticeably down. It also seemed like the number of donors was down – hard to assess since we don't really keep records. Thankfully there's a loyal core that can always be counted on – and you know who you are. Thank you very much!

The good news is that I know we can do better – and in fact we must. Our program budget next year is tied into the revenue generated by our plant sales. This year we are operating under the assumption of plant sale revenue of \$2,500. This figure is conservative, derived as an average of actual revenue from the past three years. Thus far the two sales have generated \$1,553, with one sale yet to go.

With a successful member sale in August, we can still stay on course and make our budget. The conclusion should be obvious. Plan now to donate plants to the August sale. It will mean making this sale our best ever and it will take a concerted commitment by you – and all our members to donate and buy plants.

*Carol Eichler*

## Short notes

Thanks to the Chapter members who designed and built the rock garden at the Alternatives Federal Credit Union. I drive by it every day on the way home, and it looks great this spring for a new rock garden. It's a wonderful high-visibility location, and I think it was a great idea!!

I wanted to mention that one of the people who attended the Beginning Rock Gardening class on April 24 is a lady who moved into Toni Wilkinson's place at Kendall. She 'inherited' Toni's little rock garden and came to learn more about how to take care of it. While I was saddened to think that Toni couldn't be around to enjoy the rock garden longer, I was glad to hear that this woman was interested and motivated to keep the rock garden in shape. I will try to figure out (from the sign-up sheet) her name and phone number, and maybe we can contact her and keep this connection going.

*Pat Curran*

### **Plants for Life 2004**

is looking for plant donations. Please contact the donations chair Linda Uhll at [luhll@yahoo.com](mailto:luhll@yahoo.com)

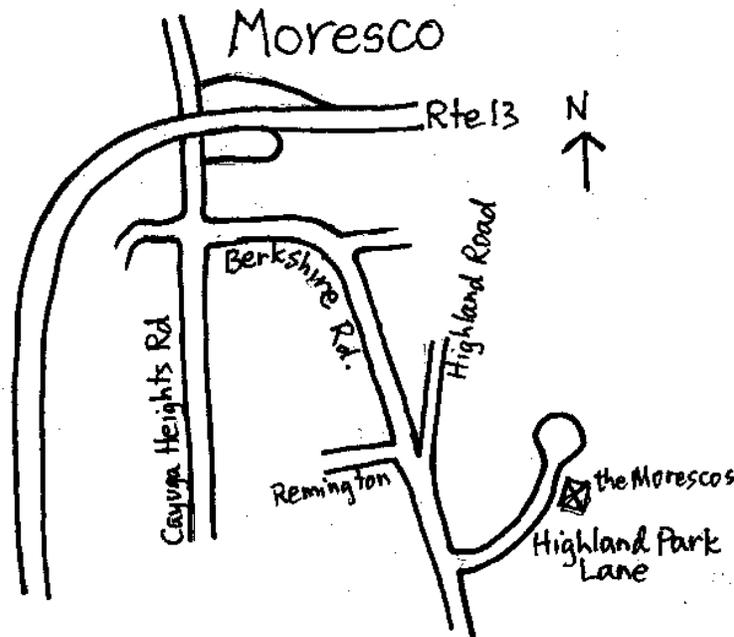
We have decided to go to 10 issues of the *Green Dragon* per year, combining the June and July and the August and September issues. So look for August plant sale info and the very exciting September event on terrestrial orchids in the August/September issue.

# June Ithaca Garden Tour

Itinerary for the June Garden Tour. Please respect the time limits set up for each garden. Please call the program chair, 256-9308, if you have any questions.

10 am to noon Joe and Roseanne Moresco 7 Highland Park Lane

Take route 13 north/south, Cayuga Heights exit. Go left at the stop sign at the end of the exit onto Cayuga Heights Road. Take 1st left onto Berkshire which bears right at the top and merges after the stop sign(s) into Highland Road. Highland Park Lane is the first left and a "dead end". Joe and Roseanne are the last house (#7) at the top of the hill before you take the circle to go back down the road. Parking is limited on Highland Park Lane so if possible please park on Highland Road and walk up the hill to their house.



11:30 to 1 P.M. Brown Bag lunch at the Wurster Garden 312 Dey Street. Access to bathrooms in Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Building.

To get to the Wurster Garden from the Morescos:

Get back on 13 south. Take the Dey Street Exit. (Get in the left lane when you get down the hill on Route 13. Dey is a left turn at a traffic signal) As soon as you go left, either park on Dey Street in the first block, or go right, around the CCE building and then left into the CCE parking lot. If you stay on Dey Street, the garden is through the wooden gate on the right side of the street. If you park in the CCE lot, walk towards Dey Street and you will be at the Wurster Garden.

continued from page 3

1 P.M. to 3 P.M. Robin Bell 714  
North Aurora Street

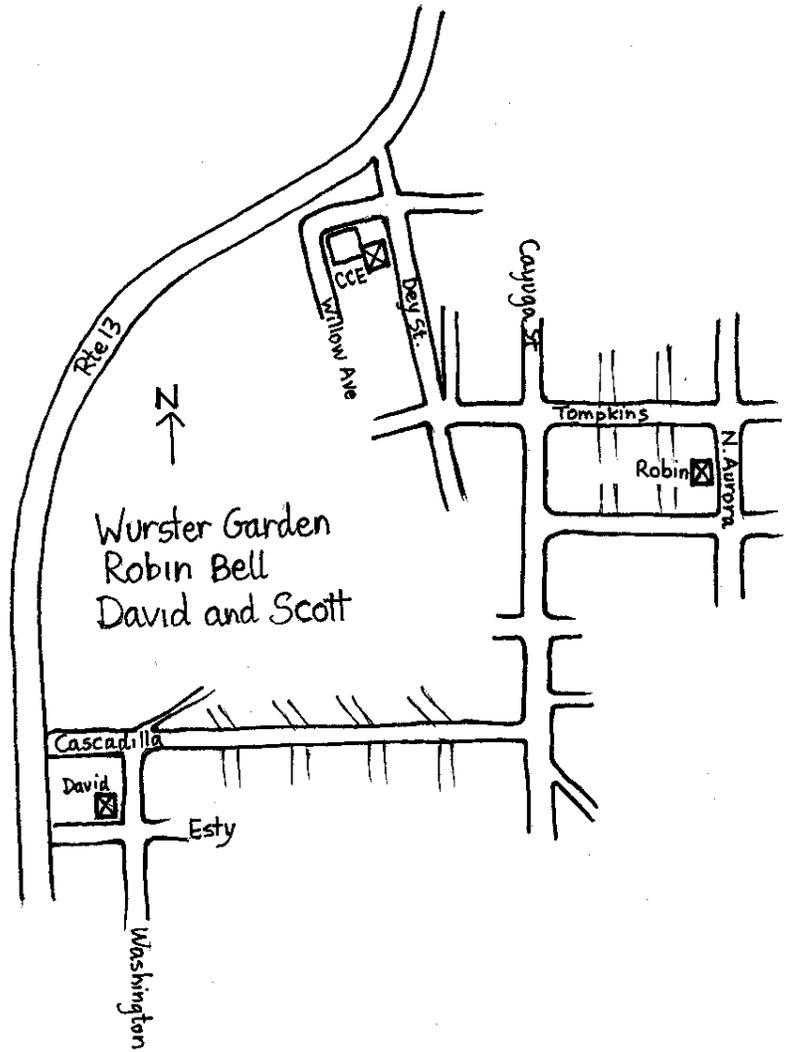
To get to Robin Bell's garden from  
the Wurster Garden.

Continue down Dey Street to  
Tompkins. Go left on Tompkins. Go  
right on North Aurora. Robin's house  
is on the right, and is in the first block  
after the turn onto North Aurora.

3 P.M. to 5 P.M. David Mitchell and  
Scott Heald 402 Esty Street

To get to Esty St. garden from  
Robin's garden:

Head west to Cayuga Street, turn left  
on Cayuga St. (south) to right on  
Cascadilla Street. Turn left on Wash-  
ington St. (one block before Meadow  
St.), David's house is on the corner  
on the right at the end of the block at  
Esty St.



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## July Picnic

The picnic in July will be on the 2nd Saturday, July 10th at noon, instead of our usual meeting date. Bring a dish-to-pass, plates and silverware for yourself. Jerry and Carolyn Yaeger will be our host

### Directions to Chickadee Farm

Take Route 13 North from Ithaca or South from Cortland to Dryden. OR Route 38 North from Richford or South from Groton to Dryden. In Dryden at the intersection with Route 392 (traffic light and big white church on corner) go East on 392 toward Virgil and Greek Peak.

About 1 mile from the intersection (at the top of the hill) turn left on Bradshaw Road. Continue 1.4 miles to 1st parking area or another 0.1 mile to 2nd parking area. There will be signs for parking. Carolyn & Jerry will be at the 2nd parking area to give directions to the picnic site and provide transportation.

Dress for walking. Swimming is available. Bring folding chairs or a blanket for sitting on the grass. We will provide water, iced tea, and coffee. No electricity or phone available.

# Chickadee Farm

