



## ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

*North American Rock Garden Society*

# Green Dragon Tales

### IN THIS ISSUE:

**Letter from the Chair**

**August Picnic and Plant Sale**

**June Garden Tour**

**NARGS Annual General Meeting Cancelled**

**Thank you one and all!**

**Postponement of Annual Seedling Exchange**

**Tufa Purchase Update**

**Beware the Jumping Crazy Worm**

**Lily Leaf Beetle**

**Membership**

**Upcoming ACNARGS Programs**

**Calendar of Select Events & Programs**

**About ACNARGS**

**About NARGS National**

**ACNARGS Board Members and Contacts**

**April 2020**

## From the Chair

*John Gilrein, ACNARGS Chair*

### \*\*\*April Meeting Cancelled\*\*\*

I'm sorry that this newsletter is mostly filled with bad news. Due to the Corona virus and the need for social isolation we are unable to hold the April 2020 meeting and seedling exchange. The May plant sale at Ithaca High School (the Garden Fair) will almost certainly be cancelled or postponed, but that decision has not yet been made. And our big event for June 2020, the NARGS Annual General Meeting that many people in our chapter and NARGS were very much looking forward to, is cancelled.

I look forward to seeing my Adirondack Chapter friends for our monthly meetings, along with the interesting presentations we have, and our Plant of the Month. We had already decided to skip the April Plant of the Month anticipating not being able to hold the meeting. I hope you are all taking precautions and staying healthy in this difficult time.

The May plant sale was always a fun event for me, interacting with our members and customers and talking about the plants. This is our main annual fundraiser. The chapter's financial status is secure even without the income from the May sale, so our viability is not an issue. We're discussing other options in lieu of the May plant sale (any option would need to be held later after the end of social isolation restrictions). If you have any ideas about an alternate plant sale, please email Carol Eichler, our Plant Sale Coordinator. One possible option is to have chapter plant sale (+ seedling exchange?) around June 18 or 19, 2020. We have a pavilion reserved at



Double Christmas rose (*Helleborus niger*)

Myers Park on June 18 (which we might try to change to the 19<sup>th</sup>) for the AGM (which we expect we won't need now). The best I can say for now, is to stay tuned. If we do have an event in June, we will let everyone know. If the restrictions are lifted, many of us will be anxious to have some kind of event.

How is one to stay safe and sane in this difficult time? For me gardening is very therapeutic, and the weather has been mostly OK to get out for at least part of the day. Getting some exercise is good out in the fresh air, so I'm walking on the road or hiking at the Baltimore Woods Nature Center in Marcellus. Baltimore Woods is seeing a fairly high volume of visitors, with many people not working or working from home, and people are observing social distancing. If your community has restrictions on going to a public place and hiking, of course then hiking would not be an option for you. The lack of social contact for me is partially offset by having Deb work from home and Kevin (our son) doing his college courses from home. One tiny little plus is that I get him to help move big rocks. I'm sorry for anyone living alone with this not very fun social distancing. Stay in contact with your friends via phone or email. We'll really appreciate socializing in person once this is over. And I hope to see you all IN PERSON in the not so distant future.



*Hepatica nobilis*, a nice dark flowered hellebore (*Helleborus x*), and Green hellebore (*Helleborus cyclophyllus*)

## August Picnic and Plant Sale

Our annual picnic and plant sale will be at Myers Park in Lansing on **Saturday August 22, 2020**. Myers Park is a Lansing town park on Myers Point at Cayuga Lake. This is a new venue for us to try. Just like the other parks where we've held the picnic, there is a covered pavilion for our group. There is a charge (\$5 I think) per car, and we won't be able to arrive early to beat the park fee, but you can car pool to save a few dollars. So put this on your calendar!

## June Garden Tour

We currently have no planned garden tour in June, which is when we've held most of our Adirondack Chapter garden tours in the past. It's probably just as well this year that there is not a garden tour in June. We are looking for a volunteer or 2 to organize an Adirondack Chapter garden tour, which would ideally be later in the year, perhaps September. A garden tour in the late summer or fall would give plenty of time to organize it, and time for the outbreak to pass. Organizing the garden tour can be done from your home via phone and email, either during business hours or early evening. If you're interested in taking on this one time volunteer opportunity, I can help you organize it, so email me: [jgilrein@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jgilrein@twcny.rr.com).

## NARGS Ithaca Annual General Meeting Cancelled

We're very disappointed that the Ithaca AGM 2020 has been cancelled, along with all other events on the Cornell University campus prior to July 12, 2020. The Corona virus epidemic continues to create havoc with people's health and any social gathering. Cornell will be issuing refunds to registrants. We have had good support from NARGS through the long process of organizing this event up through the end. We'll share more information with the Adirondack Chapter as this event unfolds.

## Thank you one and all!

*Carol Eichler, AGM Volunteer Coordinator*

On top of chairing the planning committee for the annual general meeting this year, I also served as volunteer coordinator. Even though the AGM had to be cancelled, I want to extend a BIG thank you to the 26 people who were already lined up to volunteer for the conference (and that's not counting the 4 of us serving on the planning committee).

A conference like this is a lot of work to organize but it takes a whole lot more people-power during the conference to lend a hand to make sure our registrants who are after all guests on our home turf are made to feel welcome.

As volunteers our job was also to make sure everything would run smoothly and to troubleshoot when there were unexpected issues. Thank you all for agreeing to step up! I hope to thank each of you personally in the near future. Right now, I'm dying to get outdoors and do a little gardening. Because – guess what? – it isn't raining!

## Postponement of Annual Seedling Exchange

*Carol Eichler, Plant Sales Chair*

### Postponement of Annual Seedling Exchange

The phrase I seem to using a lot these days is “wait and see.” As of today (April 3), it doesn’t look like we will yet be past the critical point in New York State to be cleared for large gatherings nor for some time to come. Certainly not in April and, if you listen to anyone with authority, evidence, and reason, our comings and goings will still be severely limited in May, June, and beyond. But don’t worry, our Chapter is stronger than this virus and we will persist!

What does this mean for us as a Chapter? Besides cancelling the April general meeting, we are also postponing, but holding out hope that we won’t be cancelling altogether, our seedling exchange. We need to think creatively about how we might modify our annual exchange as well as our plant sale in May.

It will be interesting to see what Cooperative Extension decides to do in regard to their annual event - the Garden Fair and Plant Sale; the Master Gardeners plant sale at this event is an important financial component of their program. It is also an important event for our local nurseries (please see the separate article about the May plant sale).

### Here’s some good news!

I have extra seeds to share from both the NARGS seed exchange and the seed exchange from the Ontario Rock Garden and Hardy Plant Society. I’ve included a list of seeds available at the end of this article. Please contact me and I will send you – free - seeds. I have a limited supply so please suggest up to 10 genera so that, if need be, I can make substitutions. This is first-come, first-served. Virtually all of these plants were chosen for the rock garden and in most cases will be suited to growing in troughs too. Contact me: [Carolithaca@gmail.com](mailto:Carolithaca@gmail.com) or call 607-269-7070.

### Life as we know it

What does this pandemic mean for us as gardeners? Thankfully the natural world is proceeding on its usual timeframe. Spring has arrived and our plants are responding. The outdoors seems like one of the safest places to be and my gardens certainly help to keep me safe and sane. The emerging life I see all around is such a sign of hope and optimism. (Do we not all recognize the therapeutic qualities that gardening brings to our lives?)

So as a gardener, I'm proceeding with business as usual. That means, planting seeds, cleaning up beds, and anticipating the growing season ahead. Yes, I am even potting up plants for a "someday" plant sale. I can't think of a more sign of hope than gardening.

Now is the time to stay connected. I've been so impressed by the ways that individuals and organizations have been doing just that, virtually, through the use of social media, or simply by reaching out with a phone call. Please let's get creative in how we stay connected too! Connection starts with this newsletter. But don't hesitate to contact other members. Let's stay in touch.

In case you need something to cheer you up, here are a few wonderful, restorative online videos that I can recommend. If you have others to suggest, let me know. I will post links on our Facebook page.

- A walk-through of the New York Botanic Gardens 18<sup>th</sup> annual orchid show:  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=145671790151768>
- Spring unfolding at Cornell Botanic Gardens: <https://cornellbotanicgardens.org/quiet-the-mind-spring-unfolding-at-cornell-botanic-gardens/>
- Monet's Giverny: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzID-J3B9Xg>
- And where I would be right now, the Washington DC cherry blossom festival:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eh16fdLiLQ> (hint: you might want to mute the sound)

#### Carol's 3<sup>rd</sup> Round Seed Exchange

<u>Aethionema grandiflorum</u>
<u>Aquilegia buergeriana (dwarf form)</u>
Bukiniczia cabulica
Dianthus pavonius
Draba cusickii
Draba incerta
Draba polytricha
Dracocephalum ruyschiana
Dryas octopetala ssp hookeriana
Erigeron areus
Erigeron compositus
Eriogonum umbellatum v modocense
Eritrichium canum
Geranium thunbergii
Helenium nummularium
<u>Heterotheca jonesii</u>
Inula esifolia
Lesquerella kingii
Limonium bellidifolium-Limonium sp (ex Peter Korn SJ6357)
Limonium minutum
<u>Linaria aeruginea</u>
Penstemon 'Red Riding Hood'
Penstemon hirsutis pygmaea
<u>Penstemon richardsonii</u>
Penstemon strictus
Phyteuma scheuchzeri

Phyteuma sieberi
Polemonium boreale
Primula matthioli
<u>Raoulia glabra</u>
Sanguisorba officinalis v. microcephala 'Little Angel'
<u>Solidago multiradiata (dwarf form)</u>
<u>Stachys spathulata</u>
Stipa capillata
<u>Tanacetum armenum</u>
Tetraneurus acaulis
<u>Teucrium botrys</u>
<u>Veronica 'Giles van Hees'</u>
<u>Veronica fruticans</u>
<u>Xanthisma (Aster) coloradoense</u>
<u>Xanthisma (Aster) coloradoense (alpine form)</u>

## Tufa Purchase Update

*Bill Stark*

I recently talked to Joseph Ferdula about our tufa purchase. He's in his mid-80s and was concerned about coming to the conference. I told him the conference is very likely to be cancelled or postponed, but that there are a number of people (including non-ACNARG rock gardeners who have contacted me), who are still interested in buying his tufa when it's safe to do so. He said that we would have to pick up the tufa at his quarry in Ilion and that he hasn't decided on a price yet. I told him that I wouldn't begin to organize the purchase until we had a firm price. He said he'd get back to me.

## Beware the Jumping Crazy Worm

*Pat Curran*

Some gardeners are still not acquainted with the invasive jumping crazy worm, but it is important that we take steps to avoid spreading it around when we share plants.

A little background first: none of the earthworms in central NYS are native. The native earthworms were obliterated by the latest glaciation. Since their dispersal from more southern, unglaciated areas was so slow, they didn't reappear in our area before the colonists brought in European earthworms. Most of us grew up thinking of those earthworms as beneficial to our soils, and this may be true in some garden settings or when we are making topsoil from subsoil (as I had to do in my home landscape where the builder hired by the previous owners almost certainly sold off the topsoil).

However, in the native environment, especially in our climax vegetation which is forest, the flora and fauna evolved in the absence of earthworms for the last 10,000 or so years. Other organisms recycle the forest duff (fungi, etc.), but much slower, and leave a nice cushion on the forest floor to nourish and protect plant roots and small vertebrates such as salamanders. So even the European earthworm is not beneficial in the forest.

Back to the jumping crazy worm: I won't spend a lot of time giving you the back story because you can google that. Here's a link from CCE: <http://ccetompkins.org/resources/jumping-worm-fact-sheet>

The practical aspect is that this worm reduces organic matter, whether it be forest leaf duff, or your mulch, to

deep, dryish, large granules quite unlike the moist earthworm castings of European earthworms – and often within one growing season. The result in a garden situation is no mulch left – if you apply more, you are feeding more jumping worms! Your beloved plants may heave more readily among other drawbacks.

In the forest, wildflowers adapted to forest leaf duff are left high and dry. Native snails (that may provide calcium to native birds' eggshells) have nothing left to eat, salamanders nowhere to hide either. Seedlings dry out and die before their roots go deep enough... I could go on.

How can we gardeners slow down this disaster and prevent it from spreading?

Currently there is no cure, but we can use practices so that we are not spreading the jumping worms further.

Some biology: there are about 3 similar species, and there is still a lot that is not known. But we think, or know, that this is an annual worm. It overwinters in the egg stage in little parcels called cocoons, which are basically too small to detect with the naked eye for all practical purposes. So you won't detect jumping worms early in the growing season when they are very small.

As the season progresses, they grow fast, often getting to 5 or 6 inches long. The easiest way to distinguish them from European earthworms is their behavior – they move very fast like snakes, hence the jumping crazy worm nickname. They feel more muscular too. Their clitellum is slightly different: see the factsheet above for details. Of course, if it's chilly out, they won't be moving as fast. We think the adults die when winter comes, but in warmer climates, there might be more than one generation.

So how do we prevent or slow down their spread when we share plants or plant divisions? Here's the procedure that the Tompkins County Master Gardener group has come up with, when we are dividing and potting up plants for the Garden Fair Plant Sale. As an educational group, we decided to confront the situation.

All donated plants are barerooted, whether the donor has the jumping worm or not (because he/she may not be familiar with it, or the garden may have been recently infected). We typically root prune the plants to stimulate new root growth and to fit the root ball in the pot, anyway.

Next, we divide the root ball to the desired division size. Then we triple wash the roots in 3 changes of water until there is no more soil on the roots.

We rinse out the plastic pots that we re-use, and then pot the divisions up in soilless potting mix. Since the Tompkins County Cooperative Extension landscape is infected with jumping worms, the pots are then placed on pallets or tables so that the pots are not in contact with soil or with the stone patio (which has soil between the stones).

I personally am wary about accepting plants from other sources, and I worry about plants from some nurseries, especially little home nurseries where the owners may not even have heard of these worms. I think that this problem may still be under the radar for the NYS nursery inspectors, but I'm not sure about that.

I do know that a midwestern state has banned plant sales because of the jumping worm problem, so it is also in our own interest to practice prevention. It would be a big financial blow to many garden groups if our plant sales were to be banned, or restricted to seedlings or cuttings, when most of us don't have the facilities to produce those.

# Lily Leaf Beetle

Published on *Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment*  
[\(<https://ag.umass.edu>\)](https://ag.umass.edu)

## Lily Leaf Beetle *Lilioceris liliii*, Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae

If you grow lilies, then be well aware of the lily leaf beetle, its life cycle and how to manage this pest and pass the information along to your customers. Lily leaf beetle (*Lilioceris liliii*) is known to lay its eggs and develop only on true lilies, *Lilium* species (Turk's cap lilies, tiger lilies, Easter lilies, Asiatic and Oriental lilies) (not daylilies), and fritillaria (*Fritillaria* sp.). Although lilies and fritillaria are the primary hosts, lily leaf beetle also feeds, sometimes just lightly, on a number of other plants, including lily of the valley (*Convallaria majalis*), soloman's seal (*Polygonatum* sp.), bittersweet (*Solanum* sp.), potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), hollyhock (*Alcea*) and various hosta species. It is however, a devastating pest to true lilies.



## History

The lily leaf beetle (LLB) is native to Europe and was discovered near Montreal, Canada in 1945. Its damage was limited to the Montreal area for decades, until discovered in the United States in 1992 in Cambridge, MA. It is thought that LLB arrived in a shipment of lily bulbs from Europe. Since then, LLB has spread throughout much of Massachusetts and is working its way throughout New England. Lily leaf beetles are strong fliers and are also moved from one area to another on host plants. Both the immature stage and adults cause damage by eating the leaves and buds. Adults and larvae are commonly found together devouring lily foliage. Often, they consume all the leaves leaving only bare stems.

## Identification and Life Cycle

As soon as lilies break through the ground, over-wintered, [bright red adult lily leaf beetles](#) [3] will begin to actively feed on the foliage. The adult beetles are about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long with a very bright red body, and black legs, head, antennae, and undersurface. Over the past two years this emergence has occurred around the middle of April in the warmest parts of the state. The beetles are foraging for food and seeking a mate. The adult beetles will begin to lay eggs on the undersides of leaves, usually in May. The eggs are irregular-shaped and laid in rows that appear as tan-colored lines. Just before the eggs hatch, they will turn orange and then a deep red color. The eggs hatch within 4-8 days into the immature or larval stage. The [larvae](#) [4] are slug-like in appearance with soft, plump orange, brown, yellowish or even greenish bodies and black heads. The young larvae initially feed on the undersides of the foliage but eventually will move to the upper surfaces and the buds. While they feed, the larvae pile their own excrement on their backs which makes them objectionable to hand-pick. The larval feeding is the most destructive and lasts for 16-24 days. The larvae then drop to the soil to pupate. The pupae are fluorescent orange. Adult beetles emerge 16-22 days later and can be seen feeding throughout the rest of the growing season. Adult beetles over-winter in sheltered places, soil or plant debris in the garden or woods, not necessarily near the host plants. Adults prefer areas that are shaded, protected, cool, and moist. The over-wintered adults emerge early in the spring and begin the cycle again with feeding, mating and egg-laying. Each female beetle produces 250-450 eggs.

## Management

If your customers only have a few plants in their garden, hand-picking adults and eggs can be effective. For more than a few susceptible plants, pesticide treatments may be needed. Products containing Neem (Bon-Neem, Azatin), a botanical insecticide, have been shown to kill very young larvae but must be applied every five to seven days after egg hatch. Products containing spinosad a microbial insecticide, may also be effective. Spinosad is sold as Conserve and Entrust for commercial growers and Monterey Garden Insect Spray, BULL'S-EYE™ and others. Before recommending a product or applying any pesticide, READ THE LABEL **and** apply only as directed on the label.

Products containing the systemic imidacloprid have reportedly provided effective control applied either as a foliage spray or soil drench depending on label instructions. Imidacloprid is the active ingredient in Marathon, used in commercial greenhouses. Merit, used by landscapers and home gardeners and one of the active ingredients in Bayer Advanced Rose and Flower Insect Killer for home gardeners. There are also other home gardener formulations containing imidacloprid. Note that it is thought that imidacloprid is one of several causes of bee decline and should never be used when bees are active or on plants in flower. See recent research from UMass: [Nest Location in Bumble Bees: Effect of Landscapes and Insecticides](#) [5]

When using pesticides it is important to take precautions to protect pollinating insects such as bees. Apply pesticides in the evening when fewer bees will be foraging and when spray drift due to wind and volatilization due to heat are at a minimum. Do not spray during windy weather to prevent drifting. Avoid spraying when plants or nearby plants (including weeds) are in bloom. See the fact sheet "[Protecting Bees from Pesticides](#) [6]" (Purdue University).

### **Lily Leaf Beetle Biological Control Research Update**

Recent research efforts to control the lily leaf beetle have concentrated on classical biological control which acquaints natural enemies with their host. LLB came from Europe so European parasitoids were released with the intent of establishing and distributing themselves to provide long term control rather than needing to provide regular releases each year. Areas within a few miles of the research release sites of the parasitic wasps are benefiting already. Here is an update on biological control research for LLB.

*The following information is reprinted from: Lily Leaf Beetle Biological Control Update, March 31, 2006. Northeastern IPM News, Dept. of Plant Sciences, University of Rhode Island*

The University of Rhode Island Biological Control Laboratory, in collaboration with CABI-Bioscience and colleagues in France, identified a complex of four larval parasitoids, which causes a high level of parasitism throughout Europe. On the basis of parasitoid surveys in Europe and laboratory experiments conducted in the USA and Europe, it was determined that *T. setifer*, *L. errabundus*, and *D. jucunda* were safe and likely candidates to control *L. liliii*.

*Tetrastichus setifer* is likely the best candidate for controlling the LLB in the Northeast. It is widespread throughout Europe and it has been relatively easy to establish in RI, MA, NH, and ME. Lily leaf beetle populations have declined substantially at the two oldest release sites. They last released *T. setifer* in Wellesley, MA in 2001 where it has heavily parasitized LLB larvae ever since (100% parasitism at peak larval density in 2005). We found similar results in Cumberland, RI where we last released *T. setifer* in 2002, with 100% parasitism at peak larval density in 2005. From the parasitoids released in surrounding states, they found *T. setifer* established in Bridgton, ME in 2004. *Tetrastichus setifer* has also spread several miles from release sites.

*Lemophagus errabundus* was found in a lily garden 3/4 mile from their Plainville, MA release site in 2005, indicating that it is not only established from releases in 2003 and 2004, but it has spread a considerable distance. They also released this species in the Kingston, RI plot where they found good parasitism in the weeks following release. *Diaparsis jucunda* has proven to be more difficult to establish against the LLB. It is found at higher elevations in Europe, and appears well-suited for northern New England, but they have not yet recovered overwintered parasitoids at any of their 2004 and 2005 release sites in RI, MA, NH, or ME. In 2005 they also released LLB larvae parasitized by *D. jucunda* into their lily plots to determine if this is a better way to establish this species.

### **References**

#### **Photos**

[Adult](#) [3]

[Eggs](#) [7]

[Larvae](#) [4]

Resources from University of Rhode Island Bio Control Lab: [Lily Leaf Beetle Bio control project](#) [8]

Tina Smith, Extension Greenhouse Crops and Floriculture Program, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 07, updated 2013

---

**Source URL:** <https://ag.umass.edu/greenhouse-floriculture/fact-sheets/lily-leaf-beetle>  
**Links**

- [1] <https://ag.umass.edu/greenhouse-floriculture/fact-sheets/lily-leaf-beetle>
- [2] [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/fact-sheets/images/LLBAdultTS\\_0.jpg](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/fact-sheets/images/LLBAdultTS_0.jpg)
- [3] <http://negreenhouseupdate.info/photos/lily-leaf-beetle-adult-asiatic-lily>
- [4] <http://negreenhouseupdate.info/photos/lily-leaf-beetle-larvae-0>
- [5] <https://bee-health.extension.org/nest-location-in-bumble-bees-effect-of-landscapes-and-insecticides/>
- [6] <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/E-53.pdf>
- [7] <http://negreenhouseupdate.info/photos/lily-leaf-beetle-eggs-fritillaria>
- [8] <http://web.uri.edu/biocontrol/lily-leaf-beetle/>

## Membership

*Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator*

It is time for some of you to renew - dues are \$15 for individuals, \$20 for a household. Check my email announcement of the newsletter link for your membership status.

If you have not renewed for 2020, you should do it now so you'll be eligible to purchase the plant-of-the-month at our meetings. The renewal form is at <http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf>. Your membership status is reported to you in the email with the newsletter link. Contact Mary Stauble at [mes2@cornell.edu](mailto:mes2@cornell.edu) if you have any questions.

## Upcoming 2020 ACNARGS Programs

*Mark your calendars! Unless otherwise specified, all local events start with a brown bag lunch at noon with the program following at 1 pm, and take place at the renovated Whetzel Room, 404 Plant Science Building, 236 Tower Road, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.*

**MAY BE CANCELLED: May 16: Garden Fair and (our) Plant Sale**, Ithaca High School.

**CANCELLED: June 18-20, 2020: Foresight 2020: Exploration and Inspiration**, NARGS Annual General Meeting, hosted by ACNARGS in Ithaca, NY.

**August 22, 2020:** Members Plant Sale and Picnic. Myers Park, Lansing.

**September 19: Teri Dunn Chace, Seeing Seeds**, Lecture and book signing.

**October 4, SUNDAY, presentations at 11:00 & 1:00: Ger van Buiton**, Netherlands. *The Rock Garden at Utrecht Botanic Gardens and Peatbeds, a Perfect Place to Grow Woodlanders and Plants of Alpine Meadows.*

**November 14: Darren Heinbecker**, [Whistling Gardens](#), Canada's newest botanic garden.

## Calendar of Select Events & Programs

**March 12-15:** [Gardenscape](#) flower show, Henrietta.

**March 19-22:** [Plantasia](#) flower show, Hamburg.

**April 4-5:** VaVa Bloom Garden Show, Dickman Farms, Auburn.

**April 25:** 24th Annual Gathering of Gardeners Symposium, Rochester.

**May 8 – 17:** [Rochester Lilac Festival](#).

**May 10:** [Sycamore Hill Gardens](#) open; also open **June 20**.

**May 16:** [Spring Garden Fair & Plant Sale](#) at Ithaca High School.

**May 23, 24, 30, 31, and June 6, 7:** [Linwood Gardens](#) Tree Peony Festival, 9-4.

**June 19:** [Der Rosenmeister](#) open house 4-7.

**June 27:** Dryden Open Gate Garden and Art Tour, 9-2.

**June 28-July 8:** [Chrys Gardener's Ireland Garden Tour 2020](#) – Clare and Galway.

**July 11 or 12:** Southern Cayuga Garden Club Summer Tour in the Genoa area.

**July 11:** [Garden Conservancy Open Days](#), Ithaca area, 10-4.

**July 12:** Fall Creek Garden tour, usually 11-4.

**Aug. 8:** [Garden Conservancy Open Days](#), Ithaca area, 10-4.

*Check out additional gardening programs of these organizations below.*

*Practical Earthkeeper*, Home Gardening Program, [Cornell Cooperative Extension](#)

[Finger Lakes Native Plant Society](#) monthly meetings

[Cornell Botanic Gardens](#) events

[Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club](#)

To have a garden event in your area listed send all pertinent information to David Mitchell at  
[david\\_mitchell\\_14850@yahoo.com](mailto:david_mitchell_14850@yahoo.com)

## About ACNARGS

We are an all-volunteer organization and one of thirty-eight NARGS affiliated chapters active in North America. Our annual Chapter activities include 5 program-speaker meetings, the *Green Dragon* newsletter, web and Facebook pages, garden visits, 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), 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. Download a membership form at [www.acnargs.org/join.pdf](http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf).

## About NARGS National

NARGS National is our parent organization: We encourage you to join (online at [www.nargs.org](http://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 an archive of past publications, a chat forum and a horticultural encyclopedia. NARGS National also conducts winter study weekends and 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.

## 2019 ACNARGS Board Members and Contacts

If you want to **volunteer**, we'd love to hear from you!

Chair: **John Gilrein**, [basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu](mailto:basecamp@alum.syracuse.edu)

Program: **Terry Humphries**, [terryehumphries@gmail.com](mailto:terryehumphries@gmail.com)

Program Committee Members: **Could this be you?**

Secretary: Currently rotating amongst "Responsible People"

Treasurer: **BZ Marranca**, [mmm10@cornell.edu](mailto:mmm10@cornell.edu)

Plant Sales Chair: **Carol Eichler** [carolithaca@gmail.com](mailto:carolithaca@gmail.com)

Plant Sales Committee Members: **Michael Loos, BZ Marranca, Carol Eichler**

Plant of the Month: **Marlene Kobre**, [mkobre@ithaca.edu](mailto:mkobre@ithaca.edu)

Membership: Seeking someone to do this. **Could this be you?**

New Member Hospitality: **Graham Egerton**

Newsletter Editor: **David Mitchell**, [dwm23@cornell.edu](mailto:dwm23@cornell.edu). **Looking for a new editor!**

Calendar: **Pat Curran**, [pc21@cornell.edu](mailto:pc21@cornell.edu)

Webmaster, Program Tech: **Craig Cramer**, [cdcramer@gmail.com](mailto:cdcramer@gmail.com)

## Green Dragon Tales

Published eight times a year: Jan./Feb., March, April, May/June, July/Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov./Dec.

Submit articles by the fourth Friday of the month preceding publication to David Mitchell,  
[david\\_mitchell\\_14850@yahoo.com](mailto:david_mitchell_14850@yahoo.com). The newsletter is always posted and printable each month on our website [www.acnargs.org](http://www.acnargs.org)

Map: Whetzel Room, Room 404 Plant Science Building, 236 Tower Rd., Cornell campus



Near Tucson, Arizona. Photos by Rosemarie Parker's daughter.

