

American Horticulturist

Peace Corps Comes of Age: Ag Programs Going Strong

The Peace Corps has come a long way since its inception in 1961. While the program's growth has not always been outward and upward, it has, like an inexperienced youth, matured throughout the years. And like most 25-year-olds, it exudes potential; it holds promise of good things to come. As they would during any anniversary celebration, friends of the Peace Corps and those individuals who make up the organization are evaluating the past and looking toward the future with an optimistic eye. The significant difference is that the Peace Corps' celebration is Congressionally-mandated, and has lasted not a day but a year (October 1, 1985-September 30, 1986), leaving plenty of time for both reminiscing and planning.

In the past, Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) have leant their skills and energies to a wide variety of programs in agriculture, including horticulture. One project involved the establishment of nearly one million dollars worth of market commitments for snow peas from restaurants and hotels in Honduras. In another project, Peace Corps volunteers assisted forestry departments in Papua, New Guinea, in promoting intercropping (planting wood supply trees in a rotational field), thus insuring a continuous supply of timber. Peace Corps Volunteers in Jamaica have compiled a compendium on medicinal plants, and have inventoried and mapped several botanical gardens.

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Peace Corps volunteer John Sabella, training teachers in Sierra Leone to set up school gardens in rural areas.

Peace Corps Comes of Age

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According to Richard Record, an Agriculture Sector Specialist who evaluates and assesses training needs and programs, and provides consultation to countries and volunteers, the focus of the Peace Corps will shift in the future from education, where it is now, to agriculture. Loret Miller Ruppe, the Peace Corps' dynamic director, explains the necessity of this shift: "We talk about hunger as being one of the biggest impediments to peace. We can't have peace when people are hungry. . . ." (In Africa alone there has been a twenty year decline in per capita food availability.)

Although Peace Corps goals have remained the same throughout the years—to help promote world peace and friendship; to help developing countries meet their needs for skilled men and women; and to help promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of developing nations—the means of carrying out those goals has changed. Programs, for example, are more specialized and better coordinated. Specific initiatives include reduction of the long-term devastation from the African famine, reforestation in Asia and small enterprise development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Volunteers, while maintaining the



ABOVE: Lee and Karen Altier, horticultural extension volunteers, advise local farmers in Nepal about raising crops and planting trees.

BELOW: Volunteer Cindy Cory conducts a training program on vegetable production for Ministry of Agriculture employees in Liberia.

American Horticulturist

VOLUME 65 NUMBER 9

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Address all editorial correspondence to: **The Editor, American Horticulturist, American Horticultural Society, Box 0105, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121.** AMERICAN HORTICULTURIST, ISSN 0096-4417, is published monthly by the American Horticultural Society, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22308, 703-768-5700. Dues for membership in the Society start at \$20 per year; \$12 of which is for AMERICAN HORTICULTURIST. Copyright © 1986 by the American Horticultural Society. The American Horticultural Society is a non-profit organization. Contributions are deductible for income tax purposes. Second-class postage paid at Alexandria, Virginia and at additional mailing offices. **Postmaster:** Please send Form 3579 to AMERICAN HORTICULTURIST, Box 0105, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121.

idealism of their earlier counterparts, are more practical. They are older (the average age is now 29, up from 23 in the 1960's) and more experienced; among the total number of volunteers, 34 percent are trained in the business, engineering, health and social work professions and 16 percent are agriculture professionals. Only 15 percent have a liberal arts education. According to Ruppe, volunteers are now very interested in what the Peace Corps experience means to their future professional life.

Predictably (in light of Reagan administration budget cuts), the secret to the program's maturity and strength is not due to an increased budget. In fact, the program's budget is half of what it was in 1966 in terms of real dollars, and the num-

ber of volunteers is proportionately lower; approximately 6,000 individuals serve today as opposed to 15,550 at the peak of the program in 1966. The strength of the program seems to lie in its new orientation, and in the attitude of its volunteers.

Since 1961, 120,000 volunteers have served in the Peace Corps, in a total of 92 countries. Today, the nearly 6,000 volunteers serve in 62 nations around the globe. Almost half of these are in sub-Saharan Africa, where hunger and deforestation are major factors affecting the quality of life. Currently, 38 percent of the volunteers are working on primary assignments in education, 25 percent are in agriculture, 12 percent are in health and nutrition, 9 percent are in energy development and forestry, 4 percent are in small enterprise devel-

opment and the remaining 12 percent are sharing needed skills in numerous other developmental fields.

With 25 percent of the total number of Peace Corps volunteers currently working in agriculture, and only 16 percent of the total being skilled agriculturists, it is hard to see how the planned shift in priorities from education to agriculture would be successful. Richard Record acknowledges this imbalance, and explains that the Corps has some difficulty in wooing potential volunteers away from the agricultural business world. But there is hope for the Corps where agricultural volunteers are concerned: in response to a request for 10,000 volunteers with backgrounds in agriculture to participate in the Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI) program, the Peace Corps received over 20,000 inquiries. (AFSI was begun last year, and has a long-term goal of increasing food production in selected African nations that already host Peace Corps volunteers.) However, according to Record, those agriculturists who do volunteer do not always have the practical experience required to substantially enhance Peace Corps agriculture programs. The problem is, says Record, "not many universities are teaching hard skills." "The University of Florida in Gainesville and Loma Linda University in California are two ex-

ceptions," he continued.

Even with a lack of "hands on" experience on the part of volunteers, agricultural programs seem to be going strong. According to the 1985 Annual Report of the Peace Corps' Agricultural Section, only seven out of 115 agricultural programs are scheduled to be reduced or phased out. Volunteers seem to be able to pick up the skills they need while they are working "in the field." In fact, that is one of the benefits of volunteers that is touted in the Peace Corps recruitment brochure.

In one current project, 50 volunteers are in Sierra Leone, Africa, working with local villagers on developing wetlands for rice production. According to Richard Record, rice was a cash crop there in the past, but prices were controlled by the government and farmers couldn't compete on the open market. This particular Peace Corps program, which has been in operation since 1974, has been quite successful in that farmers have developed a *local* market for rice. Because 750,000 acres of farmland are involved, Record says the potential exists for net production to increase to the point that rice may one day be exported. The goal is to make the country self-sufficient (an overall Peace Corps goal) in rice production once again.

Continued on page 24

A Seed Sharing Proposal

For a couple of years now, AHS has been in contact with Dave Wilder, a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines who worked for two years as an agriculture volunteer, covering a group of islands off the coast of Albay Province. Dave worked at the community level and promoted small scale food production technologies, especially backyard gardening and small fruit tree nurseries. He is currently serving a third year as editor of the *Salaysayan*, a magazine for Peace Corps volunteers based in the Philippines.

Dave suggested a number of areas in which he and other volunteers could use the assistance of gardeners in this country. He came up with the following proposal to our readers:

those with an interest in vegetable and fruit cultivation might send seeds to the Philippines, through AHS. Richard Record, Agriculture Sector Specialist with the Peace Corps, supported the idea, but warned that the plants must be suited to growth in the Philippines. Some examples of plants that will grow in this climate include beans (any type); leaf vegetables (any type); broccoli; avocados; amaranth; tomato varieties; papaya; and lime, tangerine, and cherry trees.

Those interested in donating seeds may send them to AHS, Attn: Steven Davis-PC, Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121. They will then be screened for suitability, and sent to the Peace Corps Director for Agriculture in the Philippines.

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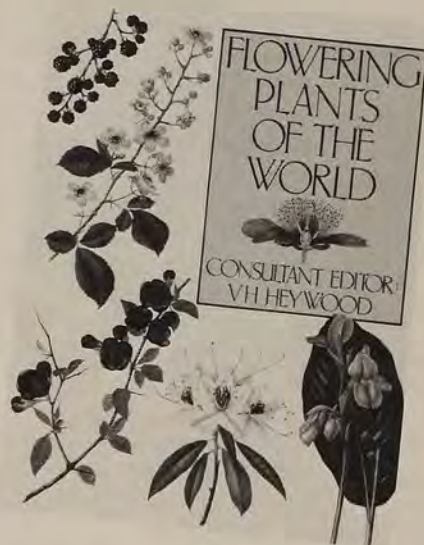
New Titles Added to AHS Book Service

Bibliophiles will want to keep up-to-date on the ever-growing list of books in the American Horticultural Society's Book Service. We have added a large number of titles—both brand new and new editions of old favorites—in the last few months. There is certainly a new book to interest every type of gardener—from regional gardening guides to native plant treatises, all would make excellent additions to any library. In fact, many would make wonderful Christmas gifts! All these books are available at special AHS member prices. To order, use the coupon on page 6.

Native Plants

AHS members who have requested a copy of the new "Native Plants Book List" have been pleased to learn of the expanding list of titles of interest to wildflower gardeners, nature-lovers and conservationists that are now available through the American Horticultural Society's Book Service. To order any of the following titles, please use the coupon on page 6. To request a copy of the complete "AHS Native Plants Book List," write to the Assistant-to-the-Editor in care of the Society.

• **Audubon Society Nature Guides.** Alfred A. Knopf. New York, New York. From 600 to 680 pages each; softcover, \$14.95 each. AHS member price, \$13.10 each. **Eastern Forests.** Ann Sutton and Myron Sutton. From Hudson Bay to Florida. **Western Forests.** Stephen Whitney. From Alaska to California and the Rockies. **Atlantic & Gulf Coasts.** William H. Amos and Stephen H. Amos. From the St. Lawrence River to the Gulf of Mexico. **Pacific Coast.** Bayard H. McConnaughey and Evelyn McConnaughey. From Alaska to Southern California. **Wetlands.** William A. Niering. North America's rivers, lakes and swamps. **Deserts.** James A. MacMahon. From Oregon to Mexico. **Grasslands.** Lauren Brown. North America's prairies, fields and meadows.



Each of these lavishly illustrated field guides describe the birds, flowers, trees, mammals, reptiles, mushrooms, insects and other wildlife in the region. Each book contains over 600 photographs to help in the identification of the flora and fauna of the region, as well as informative text, range maps and line drawings. Introductory text on the prominent habitats within each region (the boreal forest, the pine barrens, the southern Appalachians and the oak/hickory forest, for example), a glossary and an index complete each volume. These all-in-one field guides would be handy for the traveler as well as the full-time resident of an area.

• **Flora of the Great Plains.** Plains Flora Association. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. 1986. 1392 pages; hardcover, \$55.00. AHS member price, \$44.00.

This new book is *the* definitive reference work on plants of the Great Plains. It represents 35 years of research and collection and the cooperation of nine universities. The book begins with a key to the families found in the region; the family key, in turn, leads the reader to keys to the various genera. Although quite technical in nature, this is an essential work for anyone interested in the flora of the Great Plains.

• **Gathering the Desert.** Gary Paul Nabhan. The University of Arizona

Press. Tucson, Arizona. 1985. 209 pages; hardcover, \$19.95. AHS member price, \$17.95.

This is a fascinating book that celebrates the bountiful plant life in an area that is not well understood by many people in this country. The author has selected a dozen of the more than 425 edible wild plants found in the American Southwest and has presented a chapter on each of them. Lovely illustrations and a helpful bibliography complete the book.

• **Flowers Around Us: A Photographic Essay on their Reproductive Structures.** Mary Parker Buckles. The University of Missouri Press. Columbia, Missouri. 1985. 118 pages; hardcover, \$29.95. AHS member price, \$22.45.

This book contains full-color photographs of nearly 100 species of flowering plants. The accompanying text offers a new and exciting view of the floral structures, patterns, and stages of flower and fruit development. It contains photographs of both native and cultivated plants, and would undoubtedly be an enjoyable text for anyone interested in learning more about flower morphology.

• **The Natural Geography of Plants.** Henry A. Gleason and Arthur Cronquist. Columbia University Press. New York, New York. 1964. 420 pages; hardcover, \$55.00. AHS member price, \$50.00.

This is a classic textbook on plant geography that will fascinate anyone with more than a passing interest in wildflowers. The topics covered include plant migration, the difference between distribution and range, speed of migration, retreating migration and floristic groups. Black-and-white photographs serve as illustrations throughout the text.

• **A Garden of Wildflowers: 101 Species and How to Grow Them.** Henry W. Art. Alpine Press. Burlington, Vermont. 1986. 290 pages; softcover, \$12.95. AHS member price, \$10.45.

This book is brimming with ideas on how to use wildflowers in the beds and borders of a flower garden. The majority of the book is devoted to cultural and propagation information on 101 different species of wildflowers. The book is illustrated with black-and-white line drawings, and contains lists of gardens to visit as

well as a general introduction to wildflower cultivation.

Regional Gardening Guides

• **Gardening in the Upper Midwest.** Second Edition. Leon C. Snyder. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota. 1985. 301 pages; hardcover, \$18.95; softcover, \$10.95. AHS member price, \$17.05 (hardcover), \$9.85 (softcover).

This is an excellent reference for any gardener who struggles with the severe climate of the upper midwest, where long winters, alkaline soils and short growing seasons are the norm. The author has included up-to-date information on such topics as soils, home fruit growing, vegetables, trees, shrubs and perennials in this new edition of a work first published in 1978. Line drawings, numerous plant lists and an index make this a useful and informative book.

• **A Southern Garden: A Handbook for the Middle South.** Elizabeth Lawrence. The University of North Carolina Press. Chapel Hill, North Carolina. 1984. 257 pages; softcover, \$9.95. AHS member price, \$8.45.

Southern gardeners have treasured this delightful book since it was first published in 1942. The author experimented with plants throughout her lifetime, and her observations about gardening are of value not only to every Zone 8 gardener but also to anyone who enjoys reading well-written essays about gardening. The book contains a variety of essays, which are organized according to the seasons of the year, including "Long-blooming Perennials," "Daffodils in Old Gardens," "Roses for the South" and "Fall-fruiting Shrubs."

Plants

• **Growing Lilies.** Derek Fox. Croom Helm, Ltd. Dover, New Hampshire. 1985. 264 pages; hardcover, \$29.00. AHS member price, \$23.25.

Lily enthusiasts will appreciate this new book devoted to the genus *Lilium*. The author has included chapters on cultivation, diseases and propagation as well as an extensive discussion of classification and distribution.

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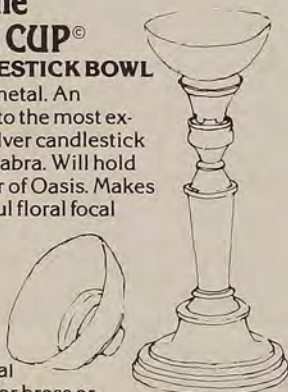
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THE CATALOG — 1.00

• **The Little Bulbs: A Tale of Two
Gardens.** Elizabeth Lawrence. Duke
University Press. Durham, North Car-
olina. 1986. 248 pages; hardcover,
\$25.00; softcover, \$10.95. AHS mem-
ber price, \$22.50 (hardcover), \$9.85
(softcover).

First published in 1957 and out-of-
print for many years, this is a delight-
fully written and enormously inform-
ative introduction to the fascinating
variety of little bulbs available to the
gardener. The author discusses a
wide variety of plants, both familiar
and little-known, including crocuses,
species daffodils, hardy cyclamen and
lily-family members such as *Bro-
diaea*, *Bessera* and *Calochortus*.

Reference

• **Flowering Plants of the World.**
V. H. Heywood, Editor. Prentice Hall.
Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. 1985.
335 pages; hardcover, \$39.95. AHS
member price, \$31.95.

First published by Oxford Univer-
sity Press in 1978, this is a beautifully
illustrated reference guide to flower-
ing plant families the world
over.

The book contains sections on more
than 300 families of plants. Each sec-
tion on a family contains a general
description, followed by information
on distribution, diagnostic features,
classification and economic uses.
Many of the families are illustrated
with excellent color and/or black-
and-white drawings. A glossary and
an introduction to botanical classifi-
cation are also included.

• **Historic Virginia Gardens.** Dor-
othy Hunt Williams. University Press
of Virginia. Charlottesville, Virginia.
1975. 350 pages; hardcover, \$24.95.
AHS member price, \$22.45.

Historic garden enthusiasts—both
in and out of Virginia—will be
pleased to know this excellent book,
which was published for the Garden
Club of Virginia, has been reprinted.
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tion on 23 garden restorations. In ad-
dition to a description of each proj-
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Plants Wanted

Members who are growing or who have access to any of the plants in this month's column are invited to help their fellow members locate seed, plants or cuttings of their "Plants Wanted" by writing directly to the address listed below.

Please send your "Plants Wanted" lists, including genus, species, common name and a brief description, to "Plants Wanted" in care of the Society. Please type or print neatly. We will publish them on a space-available basis after checking for sources in the Society's catalogue file.

• ***Carpinus betulus***, European hornbeam, grows to 80 feet and has ovate to oblong leaves up to four inches long. Native from Europe to Iran. Mike Yakopovich, 427 Shady-side, New Castle, PA 16101.

• ***Echium***, specifically perennial forms of *E. candicans* and *E. lustratum*. Both are members of the Boraginaceae, or borage family. *E. candicans*, a native of Madeira and the Canary Islands, is shrubby and

branching, and grows to six feet. Leaves are lance-shaped, white-hairy and distinctly veined; flowers are white or blue with white lines, and grow in long, dense and branching inflorescences. Both species thrive in open, sunny places. Elizabeth Chandler, 656 Cain Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464.

• ***Lespedeza thunbergii*** (formerly *Desmodium penduliflorum*), tick trefoil, is a perennial herb or subshrub that grows to 10 feet. A native of Japan and China, the plant's rose-purple flowers grow in drooping racemes. Mary Roberts, P.O. Box 86, Crete, IL 60417.

• ***Litchi chinensis*** is a member of the Sapindaceae, or soapberry family. A native from south China and the Philippine Islands to India, *L. chinensis* reaches 40 ft. at maturity. Leaves are alternate, pinnately compound and grow to 9½ inches long. Flowers are greenish-white or yellow and grow in terminal panicles; inflorescences are one foot long. Grown for

fresh or dried fruit. Lota Chase, 2808 W. Bulla Dr., Payson, AZ 85541.

• ***Polymnia uedalia***, also known as bear's foot, leafcup or balsam resin, is a native of the New World. A perennial in the Compositae, or daisy family, it grows from three to six feet tall and has leaves that are shaped like a bear's foot. Its roots are tuberous, and their extracts are used for medicinal purposes. Mr. Andrew Chasko, 7848 Orange Ave., Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

Board Member Retires

AHS would like to welcome the new members of its Board of Directors, elected at the San Francisco Annual Meeting on August 14, although at the same time we must sadly say goodbye to a retiring member of the Board, Mr. Jackson R. Eddy. Mr. Eddy has served the Society since 1979, and we extend heartfelt thanks to him for his many years of dedication.

AHS Binders



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For further information, please write: "Planned Giving," AHS, P.O. Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121, Telephone: (703) 768-5700.

Sponsoring Member's News

At the May 6th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society (MHS), seven persons were honored for their outstanding contributions to horticulture. MHS's highest honor, and one of the most prestigious awards in the country, was awarded to Thalassa Cruso Hencken for her outstanding work as author and lecturer, and for her work through the media to advance public interest in and understanding of horticulture.

The Jackson Dawson Medal of Honor was awarded to Dr. Robert Armstrong, horticulturist at Longwood Gardens, for his pioneering breeding work with New Guinea impatiens and cannas. Robert MacKenzie, chief horticulturist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, was awarded the Thomas Roland Medal for exceptional skill in horticulture.

Each year the Trustees of MHS recognize "eminent horticultural accomplishments or outstanding service to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society." Two gold medals were awarded for such service in 1985: one to Dr. Fred B. Widmoyer, professor of horticulture at New Mexico State University, for his work in the development of a pine introduction for the Southwest; and the other to Mrs. Jean Plummer, of Westwood, Massachusetts, who has headed MHS's Exhibits and Awards Committee for the last 15 years, and has been a Trustee of the MHS for nearly 10 years.

Two silver medals were awarded for "noteworthy service to horticulture," one to Dr. Bernice G. Shubert of the Arnold Arboretum Herbarium, and the other to Ms. Ann L. Crammond, Executive Director of the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

If you would like further information on any of the above awards, or on the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, write or call The Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Horticulture Hall, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA 02115, (617) 536-9280.

If your organization would like to become a Sponsoring Member of the American Horticultural Society, write the Society's Membership Department.

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Much To-do about Tulips

Many readers have written to us requesting further information about Dr. Paul V. Nelson's research on tulip fertilization. (See "1986 Awards to be Presented at Meeting" in the July News Edition of *American Horticulturist*). Dr. Nelson has demonstrated that if fertilized *before* flowering, tulips grown in the South will flower year after year (tulips were previously grown in this part of the country as annuals only). Nelson's research showed that such fertilization should occur in the fall or early winter, when the roots are emerging from the basal plate of the bulb, and not just before flowering as one might expect.

Further information on the types of fertilizers to use, and on which tulip cultivars perform the best when grown as perennials in the south, will be available this fall in a research bulletin published by the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service at NC State. To receive a copy, write Publications Office, Box 7603, School of Agriculture and Life Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.

New Native Plant Society Formed

The Maryland Plant Society (MNPS) is a rather new organization joining the ranks of those groups dedicated to preserving native flora in their respective states. Through the dissemination of information, including the publication of a newsletter, the MNPS hopes to develop public awareness of Maryland's rare and endangered plants. Articles and photographs for the newsletter are contributed by readers or by the officers of MNPS. Memberships cost \$10 per year, and include a subscription to the newsletter, *Maryland Native Plants*. For further information on other membership options, write the Maryland Native Plant Society, 14720 Claude Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

Award An AHS Medal At Your Next Plant Show

The American Horticultural Society offers the Bole Memorial Medals, designed by Victor Schreckengost, a nationally known sculptor and industrial designer. These medals are awarded to individuals for horticultural excellence at regional shows put on by plant societies who are members of AHS. The gold medal requires 15 species or cultivars of blue ribbon quality; the silver medal 8 species or cultivars. These need not be all the same species. The medal measures one and a half inches across with a ring attached so it can be worn on a chain or ribbon. The date and the recipient's name can be engraved on the back.

Requests for applications, which must be made three months in advance of the event, can be obtained from Mrs. Benjamin P. Bole, Jr., Chairman, 1 Bratenahl Place, Cleveland, OH 44108.



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AHS

What's Happening

I know many of you are interested in receiving more detailed information about upcoming AHS activities. Please watch for this column in each News Edition and I'll try to keep you up-to-date with the latest information on what's happening at AHS. Unless noted otherwise, all activities will take place at the Society's River Farm headquarters, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, Virginia.

Dahlia Day. Saturday, September 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: AHS members, \$1; non-members, \$2. Our first Dahlia Day last September was such a big success that we decided to make it an annual event. River Farm hosts one of the nine official American Dahlia Society test gardens in the United States, and the collection features over 160 dahlias each year. Experts will be on hand to answer questions during this special event, and the dahlias should be in their glory!

Autumn Festival. Sunday, October 5, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: AHS members, \$2; non-members, \$3. The American Horticultural Society is extremely pleased to have the Washington, D.C., area chapter of the Ohara School of Japanese Flower Arrangement stage an exhibit at our Autumn Festival. Unshin Ohara founded the Ohara School of Ikebana in Japan in the late 1800's. The School emphasizes the importance of seasonality, natural beauty, growth processes and the natural environment in the creation of flower arrangements. Once you admire the beauty and harmony of these arrangements, you'll know why Ikebana is considered one of Japan's most beautiful traditional art forms.

Other activities planned for the Festival include the sale of plants, bulbs, crafts, gardening books, lunch and refreshments; special presentations by plant societies; and a water

gardening demonstration by Lilypons Water Gardens. Plant experts will be on hand to answer your gardening questions as well. This will be a perfect opportunity to enjoy the magnificent fall color at River Farm.

Seed Program Underway. Remember, it's time to gather seeds for distribution in our Annual Seed Program next January. Members are already beginning to send in seeds that they have collected this year. If you are interested in obtaining information on how to collect and package seeds for this program, please write Steven Davis, Director of Horticulture, AHS, P.O. Box 0105, Mt. Vernon, VA 22121.

Christmas Open House. Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: Free. For the first time, AHS will offer fresh-cut Christmas trees for sale. Trees will be available on a pre-order basis; a limited number will be sold at the Open House. Also for sale will be holiday plants, fresh Christmas greens, gardening books, baked goods and AHS's own *Endangered Wildflowers 1987 Calendar*, which makes a very special gift. The historic old house at River Farm will be decorated for the holidays; music will fill the air and the smell of hot cider will be reminiscent of Christmas past.

AHS 42nd Annual Meeting. May 13-16, 1987. Make plans now to attend our next Annual Meeting, to be held in New York City—"Parks, Penthouses and Windowsills: Gardening in the City."

If you would like more information or have questions on any of these activities, please write or call me at the Society: Sharon Barnes, AHS, P.O. Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121, (703) 768-5700.

—Sharon Barnes,
Public Relations Director



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Wildflower Rediscovery Award

The American Horticultural Society is pleased to present a Wildflower Rediscovery Award to Mr. Carlos Rivera, a Biological Technician with the Institute of Tropical Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, in Puerto Rico. Mr. Rivera is the sole recipient of a reward thus far this year—the second year of the Wildflower Rediscovery Awards Project.

Rivera discovered a new population of *Styrax portoricensis*, a tree in the Styracaceae, or Storax family, that was previously feared to be extinct and is known only from Puerto Rico. The species was first discovered in 1885, and the plant was named in 1892. Flowers and fruits of this rare tree were collected in 1935 and 1954, respectively, but the species has not been seen since that time. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Endangered Species had classified *S. portoricensis* as a 1*—qualifying it for listing as endangered, but with no known locations.

Rivera found the tree—also known

by the common name *palo de jazin*—in a very humid, sub-tropical volcanic zone of Puerto Rico's Luquillo and Carite Mountains. Rivera's discovery represents the only presently known location of *S. portoricensis*, considered one of the rarest tree species in Puerto Rico. The tree is an evergreen that grows up to 65

feet high and bears clusters of drooping flowers followed by hard, dry fruits.

The Wildflower Rediscovery Awards Project is supported by sales of the Society's Endangered Wildflowers Calendar. To order your 1987 calendar, turn to page 17.

River Farm Rose Garden Receives Certificate of Achievement

The All-America Rose Selections Public Gardens Committee has awarded a Certificate of Achievement for 1985 to the River Farm Rose Garden, located at the Society's headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. To qualify for this certificate, the garden received excellent ratings in all categories of an evaluator's report.

Much of the credit for the lovely

garden must go to Steven Davis, Director of Horticulture for the Society, as well as to Aubrey Glass and Aubrey Glass, Jr., both of whom are responsible for maintaining the health and beauty of the roses and of the grounds in general. If you happen to be in the Washington area this summer, stop in and see our award-winning rose garden.



Fall
is a great
time for
branching out.

Spring isn't the only time to expand your landscaping horizons.

The bright, cool days of Autumn give all kinds of living plants—trees, shrubs and bulbs—a great start. And when you add a little greenery to the scenery, the value of your home blossoms as well.

So, plan on planting this Fall.

It's a great
time of year for
branching out.



Discover the pleasure of plants.

Trees as Living Memorials

Some exciting projects have been initiated at both the state and federal levels involving the planting of trees as living memorials to significant anniversaries.

The State of Connecticut initiated "Trees for Towns" this year, a project through which all 169 of its cities and towns would plant crabapple trees in an Arbor Day celebration commemorating the state's 350th birthday. More than 5,700 trees were donated by the Connecticut Nurserymen's Association and United Technologies, and the program was assisted by the state of Connecticut through the departments of Economic Development, Agriculture and Environmental Protection. Each participating community was provided with more than 30 trees to beautify its open spaces—a lasting and lovely way to say happy birthday! If you would like to learn about how to start a similar program in your state, write to the Connecticut Nurserymen's Association, 30 Lafayette Square, #109, Vernon, CT 06066.

In a similar project, the Commis-

sion on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution has proposed a program to encourage organizations to plant "Constitution trees" and perhaps other flora during bicentennial celebrations for America's most treasured document. Trees would be planted during 1987, the Constitution's bicentennial year, and

would continue to be planted until 1989. For more information about this proposal or about the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution celebration, write or call The Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20006, (800) 647-6752.



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National Garden Week Declared

Thanks to the efforts of 15 gardening organizations (including the American Horticultural Society) and their members, the 43 million American households that garden may now bask in the light of recognition. The week of April 13-19 has been officially legislated by Congress as National Garden Week. This commemorative week will celebrate the substantial contributions that gardeners have made to increasing the quality of life in the United States, through enhancing the beauty of our environment. It will become the focal point for future public activities and ceremonies that celebrate gardening.

The American Horticultural Society would like to express its appreciation to all those members who wrote letters to their congressmen in support of National Gardening Week.

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New Publications

● **Handbook on Plumeria Culture.** In this handbook, Richard M. Eggenberger sets out to explain the culture and care of plumerias, sometimes referred to by their common name, frangipani. The plumeria is described by the author and by most botanists as a rather ungainly tree, but testimony to the beauty of its flowers is unanimous. The booklet covers propagation techniques, container culture, grafting, pruning, overwintering and dormancy, as well as the pests and diseases of this plant. Eggenberger also explains the classification of this fascinating tropical species, and describes its many uses in foreign countries. A member of the Apocynaceae, a family that includes oleanders, periwinkles and alamelandas, plumeria is usually grown quite successfully in the tropics. This handbook is concerned with making plumeria culture in temperate and sub-tropical climates a successful and rewarding endeavor. In fact, the author claims that it is easy to grow plumerias anywhere in the U.S. Copies of the handbook may be ordered for \$4.95, including postage and handling, from the Plumeria People, 1846 Eagle Falls, Houston, TX 77077.

● **A Resource Guide for Horticultural Therapy Programs for Botanical Gardens and Arboreta.**

This occasional paper, written by Ann Parsons and developed by the Department of Horticulture at Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University, is a useful resource guide on outreach horticultural therapy programs operated from botanical gardens and arboreta. Chapters on the field of horticultural therapy, and on planning, funding and publicizing an outreach program in horticultural therapy are included. Programs at the Holden Arboretum, the Chicago Botanic Gardens and the North Carolina Botanical Garden are described as examples of successful approaches to the outreach effort. A slide-tape presentation is available to supplement the text of this occasional paper. This presentation covers some of the benefits of horticultural therapy programs, and provides slides of major programs in botanical gardens. Copies of the paper and three-day rentals



of the slide tape are available from the National Council for Therapy and Rehabilitation through Horticulture, 9220 Wightman Road, Suite 300, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, (301) 948-3010. The publication costs \$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers; the slide-tape rental cost is \$15 (all prices include postage and handling).

● **A Gardener's Guide to Rooting New Plants.** Rooting your own plants can be quite rewarding, and this brochure will show you how to do it. By following step-by-step instructions, you will learn how to take softwood, half-ripe and hardwood cuttings, and root them to produce new plants. By rooting cuttings, you can produce large plants more quickly, and new plants will be identical to their parents. Air layering, another form of propagation, is also described. Plants that are appropriate to each method of propagation are listed with that method. To receive a free copy of this leaflet, write to Union Carbide Agricultural Products Company, Inc., T.W. Alexander Drive, P.O. Box 12014, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, Attn: Specialty Products Group.

● **The Home Fruit Planting.** Beginners who are considering planting fruit trees, grapevines, or small fruits will want to consult this basic reference before they begin ordering plants. In addition to information for the beginner who is about to order plants, it also contains instructions aimed toward gardeners with older, mature fruit trees and overgrown brambles and vines that need pruning and other care in order to produce better yields. The booklet discusses site and soil conditions, climatic requirements and planting plans, and describes cultural practices for apples, pears, grapes, raspberries, blueberries, strawberries and currants, among other fruits. A short section on rodent and insect control, and where to find information about controlling these pests, is also in-

cluded. The booklet was written by John P. Tompkins and Gene H. Oberly, both professors of pomology in the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. It is available from county offices of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Service throughout New York State, or by mail from the Cornell Distribution Center, 7-HF Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. A charge of \$2, payable to Cornell University, covers mailing and handling costs.

● **Sequence of Bloom of Perennials, Biennials, and Bulbs.** This informative bulletin, also available through Cornell Cooperative Extension Service, is prepared particularly for the home gardener. It provides lists of perennials and bulbous plants, in chart form, and includes average height, botanical and common names, color range and period of bloom for each listed species, as well as brief cultivation remarks where appropriate. The list of perennials is limited to those that are generally hardy in most sections of New York State, and flowering period was calculated based on 10 years of observation in the central part of the state. Date adjustments would have to be made for other areas of the country where the growing season is different. However, knowing even the relative sequence of bloom for these flowers will allow the home gardener to plan for a continuous display of color in the garden, from the warmth of early spring until the chill of autumn. The bulletin (IB-196), written by R.G. Mower and R.E. Lee, is available for \$1.60 (including postage and handling) from the Cornell Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850.

● **The Palm Finder.** Palm hobbyists will want to send for this newsletter, listing worldwide places to purchase palms and palm seeds. The newsletter is produced by a local palm group in Fremont, California, that is interested in sharing information with fellow palm lovers. For further information, write or call Jacqueline E. Link, Village Software, 48017 Starlite Court, Fremont, CA 94539, (415) 657-0367. Subscriptions cost \$5 (\$6 foreign).



The American Horticultural Society

Baltimore and Beyond—Fall Foliage Cruise on the Chesapeake

October 7-18, 1986



The Foliage Season, nature's last hurrah before winter, invites us to cruise the Chesapeake Bay in early October. With thousands of miles of tidal shoreline, the Chesapeake provides a brilliant backdrop for our seven day cruise. We begin our tour in the Baltimore area with three days of private visits and special activities arranged by enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of the AHS. We then board the M/V *America*, a lovely small ship boasting spacious outside cabins and the best of southern hospitality, sail along the unspoiled landscape of Maryland's eastern shore and visit such historic and exquisite landmarks as Williamsburg and Norfolk.

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April 10-26, 1987



A land of great beauty and history, the very name Spain provokes one's imagination. Our visit will encompass the four corners of this magical country—Barcelona, Galicia, Grenada, Sevilla and, of course, time in Madrid. Since many of the country's most interesting gardens are privately owned, we have enlisted two of Spain's leading horticulturalists to help design this exceptional tour. Private is the best word to describe what we are offering: from Arab castles, ducal palaces and monasteries to bullfights, country houses and city gardens, so much of what we will see will be opened to us exclusively. This trip will delight all those interested in such a fine blending of culture and horticulture.

Capability Brown's England

May 18-June 1, 1987



The name Capability Brown is synonymous with the magnificent open parks and woodlands of England. His influence is also felt in some of the great houses and surrounding gardens which he was responsible for architecturally and aesthetically. Our two weeks which will include Press Day at the Chelsea Flower Show, will include visits to some of these Treasure Houses, with private tours conducted by the owners or head gardeners, as well as tours of some smaller and more private estates, little known to the general public.

In an Irish Garden

June 3-17, 1987



The Emerald Isle is not as well known for gardens as her English neighbor, but Irish gardens have a wild and wonderful glory all their own. This trip is a romantic journey to some of the lost domains of Irish landscape as well as to the flourishing estates of today. The changing mood and character of the landscape will surprise us as much as our discovery of the variety and richness of the gardens we plan to visit. We begin in the Southwest with its dramatic views of sea and mountain. The second half of our trip finds us visiting gardens in Dublin and County Wicklow, "The Garden of Ireland". This specially designed tour for the AHS has been a collaborative effort between Serendipity Tours and Passages Unlimited.

These trips are sponsored by the American Horticultural Society.

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
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Endangered Wildflowers



1987 CALENDAR

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Many of America's most treasured wildflowers are threatened with extinction. In fact, experts estimate that 10 percent of the species and varieties native to the United States are in jeopardy. Over 50 taxa have already disappeared.

Help save our endangered wildflowers by purchasing the American Horticultural Society's 1987 *Endangered Wildflowers Calendar*. Funds raised from sales will be used to support conservation projects.

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- various meadow uses
- outstanding national organizations working with cultivating wildflowers

Botanist Laura C. Martin is Coordinator of Native Plant Research at Atlanta Botanical Gardens and the author of *Wildflower Folklore*.

AHS member price, \$17.05 (hardcover), \$11.65 (softcover). Please use the order form to order this informative book.

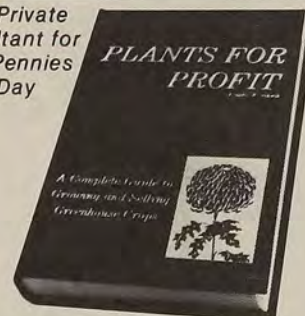
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Gardener's Dateline

SEPTEMBER 6

Dahlia Day

American Horticultural Society, 7931 East Blvd. Dr., Alexandria, Virginia. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: AHS members, \$1; non-members, \$2. Information: Sharon Barnes, AHS, PO Box 0105, Mt. Vernon, VA 22121, (703) 768-5700.

SEPTEMBER 6-7

Herb & Perennial Weekend

Wrenwood, Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information: Flora M. Hackimer, Rte. 4, Box 361, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411, (304) 258-3071.

SEPTEMBER 18

"Landscaping with Perennials"

Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Lecture by Pamela Harper. Hours: 9:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Information: Longwood Gardens, PO Box 501, Kennett Square, PA 19348, (215) 388-6741, ex. 516.

SEPTEMBER 21

Arnold Arboretum Annual Auction of Rare & Unusual Plants

Case Estates, Weston, Massachusetts. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: Arnold Arboretum, The Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, (617) 524-1718.

SEPTEMBER 26-27

AABGA Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting

Hershey Gardens, Hershey, Pennsylvania. Information: Hershey Gardens, 621 Park Ave., Hershey, PA 17033, (717) 534-3492.

SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 2

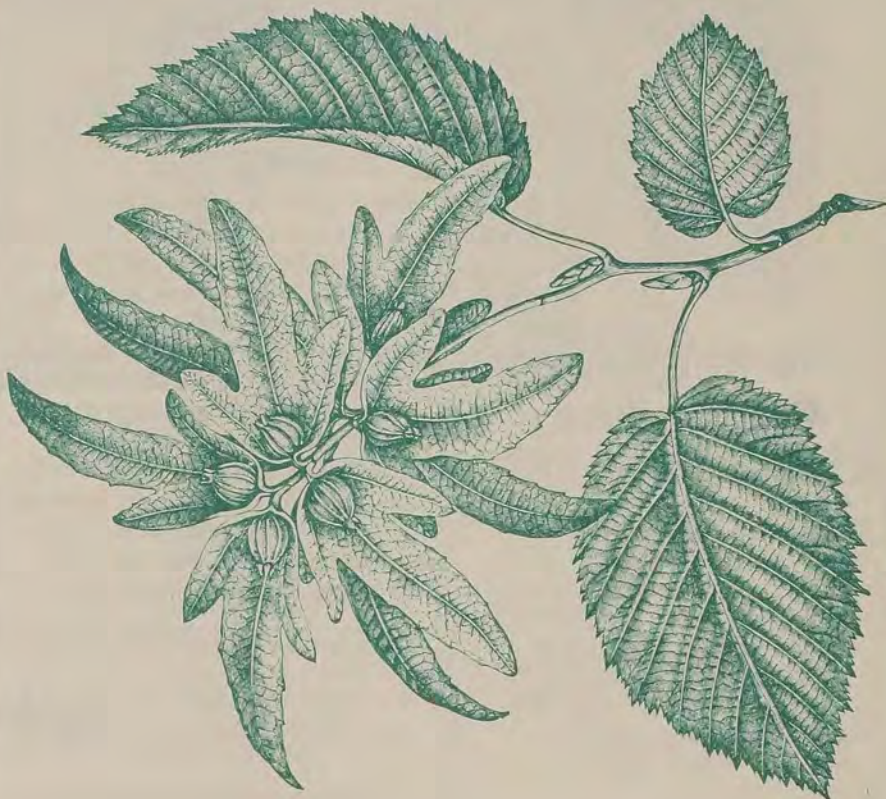
International Bedding Plants, Inc., Conference & Trade Show

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Information: BPI, Dept. MPR, PO Box 286, Okemos, Michigan 48864.

OCTOBER 4-5

Ohio Gourd Society's Annual Gourd Show

Morrow County Fairgrounds, Mt. Gilead, Ohio. Hours: Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$1; Children under 12, free. Information: O.C. Stevens, 4761 Twp. Rd., 116, Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338, (419) 946-3302.



OCTOBER 5

Autumn Festival

American Horticultural Society, 7931 East Blvd. Dr., Alexandria, Virginia. Hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: AHS members, \$2; non-members, \$3. Information: Sharon Barnes, AHS, PO Box 0105, Mt. Vernon, VA 22121, (703) 768-5700.

OCTOBER 5-7

Garden Industry of America Annual Conference & Trade Show

Philadelphia Civic Center. Information: Garden Industry of America Conference & Trade Show, 2400 East Devon, Suite 205, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (800) 323-5155; in Illinois, (312) 299-3131.

OCTOBER 7-8

Symposia: "Landscaping with Perennials" & "Landscaping with Flowering Shrubs"

The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. Registration: \$70 (per symposium). Information: The New York Botan-

ical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458, (212) 220-8720.

OCTOBER 10

AABGA Northeastern Regional Meeting

Wave Hill, Bronx, New York. Information: Wave Hill, 675 West 252nd St., Bronx, NY 10471, (212) 549-2055.

OCTOBER 10-11

Symposia: "Landscaping with Perennials" & "Landscaping with Flowering Shrubs"

The Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Illinois. Information: See October 7-8 above.

OCTOBER 10-12

Oregon Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale

Jantzen Beach Shopping Center, Portland, Oregon. Hours: Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 12-15

Garden Writers Association of America Annual Meeting

Howard Johnson's Florida Center Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Information: Jack Siebenthaler, Chm., GWAA Annual Meeting, PO Box 6524, Clearwater, FL 33518, (813) 446-3356.

OCTOBER 13

Southeast Regional World Pumpkin Confederation Weigh-Off

Cypress Gardens, Florida. Information: Cypress Gardens Public Relations Department, PO Box 1, Cypress Gardens, FL 33880, (813) 324-2111.

OCTOBER 14-15

Symposia: "Landscaping with Perennials" & "Landscaping with Flowering Shrubs"

National Wildlife Federation, Vienna, Virginia. Information: See October 7-8 above.

OCTOBER 17

Symposium: Perennials for the Landscape & Garden Center Industries

The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, Lang Music Building, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Registration: \$30. Information: The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 325 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 625-8299.

OCTOBER 17-18

Symposia: "Landscaping with Perennials" & "Landscaping with Flowering Shrubs"

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Information: See October 7-8 above.

OCTOBER 17-19

Fall Foliage Festival

Rhododendron Species Foundation, Federal Way, Washington. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: \$2. Information: Rhododendron Species Foundation, PO Box 3798, Federal Way, WA 98063, (206) 838-4646 (Seattle) or (206) 927-6960 (Tacoma).

OCTOBER 18

Annual Garden Symposium

Old Westbury Gardens, Long Island, New York. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information: Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury, Long Island, NY 11568, (516) 333-0048.

OCTOBER 18-26

Annual Fall Flower Show & Plant Sale

Planting Fields Arboretum, Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay, New York. Hours: 10

a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$3; Children under 12, \$1. Information: Planting Fields Arboretum, PO Box 58, Planting Fields Rd., Oyster Bay, NY 11771, (516) 922-9200.

OCTOBER 19-22

National Council for Therapy and Rehabilitation through Horticulture Annual Conference

Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Miami, Florida. Pre-registration: \$120 (\$50 per day); Students, \$90. Information: National Council for Therapy and Rehabilitation through Horticulture, 9220 Wightman Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20879, (301) 948-3010.

OCTOBER 20-22

New England Greenhouse Conference

Sheraton Sturbridge Inn, Route 20 opposite the Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Information: Richard J. Shaw, Dept. of Plant Science, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881, (401) 792-2791.

OCTOBER 23

New Orleans Horticultural Symposium

New Orleans Botanical Gardens in City Park, Victory Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: Longue Vue Gardens, 7 Bamboo Rd., New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 486-4054.

NOVEMBER 5-8

Conference: "Rare & Endangered Plants"

Capital Plaza Holiday Inn, 300 J Street, Sacramento, California. Registration information: Jim Nelson, California Native Plant Society, 909 12th St., Suite 116, Sacramento, CA 95814.

NOVEMBER 6-8

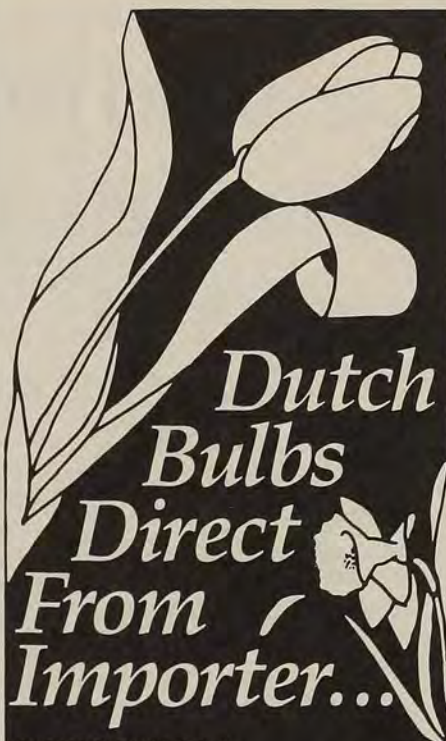
AABGA Southeastern Regional Meeting

Longue Vue House & Gardens, New Orleans, Louisiana. Information: Longue Vue House & Gardens, 7 Bamboo Rd., New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 488-5488.

NOVEMBER 6-8

Landscape Design Course

Room 181-1, College of Design, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Co-sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc., Department of Landscape Architecture and Community Planning and the Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University, Ames, IA. Hours: Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday (optional exam), 8 a.m. to noon. Pre-registration: \$15 per day; \$25 both days; exam, \$2. Information: Mrs. Charles W. Packer, Landscape Design School, R.R. #3, Box 225, Marshalltown, IA 50158.



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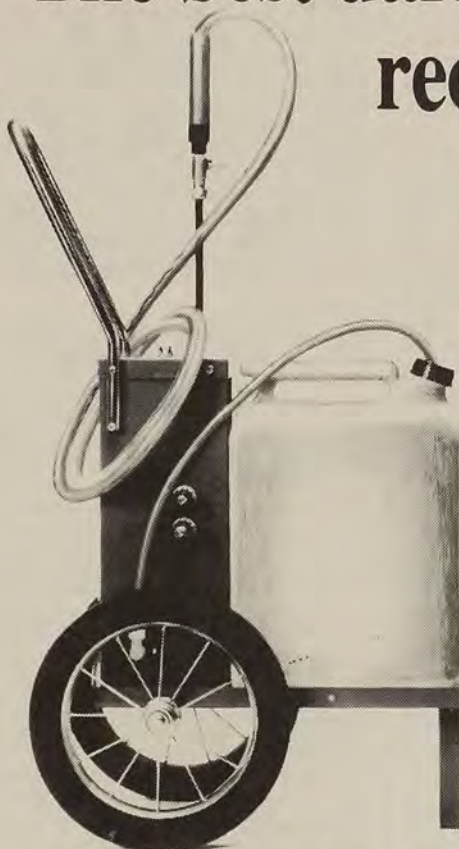
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Seedling Hostas, \$37.50/50. Hosta, Lily, Iri, Day-lily seeds. List \$1.00. HOLIDAY SEEDS, 4276 Durham Circle, Stone Mountain, GA 30083.

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TREE PROBLEMS

For FREE DIRECTORY of American Society of Consulting Arborists, experts on care, appraisals, casualty losses and legal problems, write: ASCA, 700 Canterbury Road, Clearwater, FL 33546.

WILDFLOWERS

Plant vigorous, NURSERY-GROWN, perennial WILDFLOWERS now for next year's beauty. Showy, year-round color possibilities for sun or shade. 30-page booklet describes species, gives cultural requirements, and suggests landscape uses and combinations—50¢. SUNLIGHT GARDENS, Rte. 3, Box 286—AH, Loudon, TN 37774.



Gardens in the Virgin Islands: Cruise and Symposium (January 18-25). Cruise among the sun-drenched U.S. and British Virgin Islands on board the 100-passenger *Newport Clipper*. Enjoy the breezy, benevolent climate while visiting many outstanding gardens, both public and private—some world-famous. During the highlight of the trip, you will represent the American Horticultural Society at the Royal Opening of the Tortola Botanic Garden. Leaders: Paulina du Pont Dean, Chairman of the Board of the Tortola Botanic Garden; Carolyn Lindsay, AHS Board Member, and her husband, Bob Lindsay.

Spain in Private Splendor (April 10-26). A land of great beauty and history, the very name "Spain" provokes one's imagination. Our visit will encompass the four corners of this magical country—Barcelona, Galicia, Grenada, Sevilla—and, of course, will include time in Madrid. Private is the best word to describe what we are offering: from Arab castles, ducal palaces and monasteries to bullfights, country houses and city gardens, much of what we will see will be opened to us exclusively.

Pre-Annual Meeting Tour: Private Gardens of Long Island (May 8-12). Spend some time before our New York Annual Meeting (May 13-16) getting to know the surrounding environment. Tour lovely private gardens in some of the most exclusive sections of Long Island—northern Long Island and Southampton—and visit Old Westbury Gardens and Planting Fields Arboretum.

Capability Brown's England and the Chelsea Flower Show (May 18-June 1). Capability Brown's influence is apparent in the open parks and woodlands of England, as well as in some of the great houses and surrounding gardens for which he was architecturally and aesthetically responsible. Our two-week tour will include visits to some of these treasures, with private tours conducted by the owners or head gardeners. We will also visit some smaller and more private estates, many of which are not known to the general public. A trip to the Chelsea Flower Show on Press Day will round out this exciting tour.

In an Irish Garden (June 3-17). Come take a romantic journey to some of the lost relics of the Irish landscape as well as to the flourishing estates of today. You will discover the surprising variety and richness of these gardens, and the changing mood

AHS 1987 Travel/ Study Program

The American Horticultural Society is sponsoring an exciting program of horticultural explorations for the 1987 season. Plan to join fellow AHS members on one or more of these interesting and educational garden-related tours. Use the coupon below to request more information.

and character of the landscape as well. We begin our tour in the Southwest, with its dramatic views of the sea and mountains, and continue to Dublin and County Wicklow, "The Garden of Ireland." Leader: Patrick Bowe, garden designer and expert on 19th- and 20th-century gardens.

Lost Formal Gardens of England (June 18-July 2). Discover some of England's most fantastic formal gardens, including the grand Powis Castle, the leafy Melbourne Hall and the flowery enclosures of cozy Tudor manor houses. We will also tour Packwood House and view its magnificent topiary yew, as well as Sutton Hoo and its lavish contemporary emblematic garden. Leader: Mac Griswold, garden writer and historian.

In Search of Gertrude Jekyll (July 8-22). Our search for the gardens of Gertrude Jekyll will take us to the English country-

side to visit the many homes and gardens that speak to the genius of this outstanding gardener and her remarkable partnership with Sir Edwin Lutyens. Throughout our tour we will meet with English authors, landscape architects and horticulturists who will share with us their knowledge and affection for the work of Gertrude Jekyll. Leader: Mac Griswold, garden writer and historian.

Gardens of the Rhone Valley and the Riviera (September 11-25). Take a week-long cruise of the canals of Burgundy and the Rhone Valley aboard the luxurious hotel barge *Janine*. Spend a second week exploring the gardens of the Riviera, dividing time between Cannes and Monaco. We'll visit the famous Meilland nurseries, where many of the world's most beautiful roses are raised. Leader: Richard Hutton, President of Conard-Pyle/Star Roses and the American Association of Nurserymen, as well as AHS Board Member.

Kenya and East Africa (October 14-November 4). During our tour of this land of contrast, we will visit private gardens, arboreta, great tea estates, rain forests, mountains and moorlands. We will spend an equal amount of time viewing the vast array of East Africa's extraordinary wildlife. This will be a most unusual trip encompassing a scope and variety rarely found in other itineraries for Kenya! Leader: Princess Therese Sapieha, expert on wildlife and horticulture.

YES! Please send me more information on the tours I have checked below.

- ☐ Gardens in the Virgin Islands
- ☐ Spain in Private Splendor
- ☐ Private Gardens of Long Island
- ☐ England and the Chelsea Flower Show
- ☐ In an Irish Garden
- ☐ Formal Gardens of England
- ☐ In Search of Gertrude Jekyll
- ☐ Rhone Valley and the Riviera
- ☐ Kenya and East Africa

Name _____

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MAIL TO: Elizabeth Smith, American Horticultural Society, PO Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121.

Peace Corps Comes of Age

Continued from page 3

Much of the scientific information to support Peace Corps agricultural programs comes from International Research Stations and from universities in the nations themselves. The Peace Corps also has its own Farming Systems Research program, which is five years old. The key to effective application of research findings to the field depends on effective communication between the institution and the people it serves; ideally, a PCV is the liaison between the villagers and the researchers. Volunteers work closely with both parties, but sometimes, according to Richard Record, not as closely as they could. Says Record, "The idea is noble, but the follow-through doesn't always occur." One problem is the lack of overlap in the volunteers' tours of duty. (Volunteers serve for two years, and sometimes are not present to educate their replacements.)

The program as a whole seems to have dealt with problems such as these, and with its own growing pains, quite effectively. Perhaps in a vote of confidence, Congress recently approved legislation to increase the number of volunteers to 10,000 by the year 1990. The only stumbling block now is funding. And of course, the Peace Corps can always use skilled volunteers. If you are interested in lending your skills to the Peace Corps, especially practical agri-

cultural or horticultural skills, write Peace Corps, P301, Washington, DC 20526 or call toll free, (800) 424-8580, ext. 93. —A. Brooke Russell

Endnote: The staff at AHS is proud to announce that one of our former interns, Karl Stromayer, will be serv-

ing in the Peace Corps in Birkinafaso (formerly Upper Volta), Africa. Karl's 27-month service will involve teaching students in small villages about planting grain, irrigation, animal husbandry and forest management. We at AHS extend warmest wishes to Karl for success in this endeavor.

New Information Service

Cornell's Albert R. Mann library now has a new computer-enhanced information network, "Cornell ASSIST," which will provide the general public with up-to-date, comprehensive information for a nominal fee on subjects such as agriculture, biotechnology and the life sciences. (ASSIST stands for Agriculture and Social Sciences Information Service Team.)

Previously, the staff at Mann Library could not reply in depth to all the requests for information that the library received. Now, staff members will have the time to obtain information on research reports, patents and foreign publications. They will also provide consultation on the management of information for agriculture and the social sciences, identify literature available on a particular subject, and offer workshops on state-of-the-art information technologies. "As a land-grant college, we are obligated to make our resources available to



the public," stated Jean Currie, an information specialist with Mann Library.

Cornell ASSIST is also linked to the resources contained in all other libraries on campus, as well as to more than 200 national and worldwide computer data banks for fields including biology, agriculture, ecology and the environment, and horticulture, among others.

For further information on the service, write or call Jean Currie, Cornell ASSIST, Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4301, (607) 255-7960.

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