

WASHINGTON gardener

NOVEMBER 2011

Welcome to the *Washington Gardener* Enewsletter!

This newsletter is the sister publication of *Washington Gardener* Magazine. **Both the print magazine and online newsletter share the same mission and focus — helping DC-MD-VA region gardens grow — but our content is different.** In this monthly newsletter, we address timely seasonal topics and projects; post local garden events; and, a monthly list of what you can be doing now in your garden.

We encourage you to subscribe to *Washington Gardener* Magazine as well for in-depth articles, inspirational photos, and great garden resources for the Washington DC area gardener.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This newsletter is only sent out as a PDF via email to current subscribers. Without your support, we cannot continue publishing this newsletter nor *Washington Gardener* Magazine! Our magazine subscription information is on page 9 of this newsletter.

If you know of any other gardeners in the greater Washington, DC-area, please forward this issue to them so that they can subscribe to our print magazine using the form on page 9 of this newsletter.

You can also connect with *Washington Gardener* online at:

- *Washington Gardener* Blog: www.washingtongardener.blogspot.com
- *Washington Gardener* Discussion Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WashingtonGardener/>
- *Washington Gardener* Twitter Feed: www.twitter.com/WDCGardener
- *Washington Gardener* Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/washingtongardenermagazine
- *Washington Gardener* Web Site: www.washingtongardener.com

Sincerely,

Kathy Jentz

Editor/Publisher

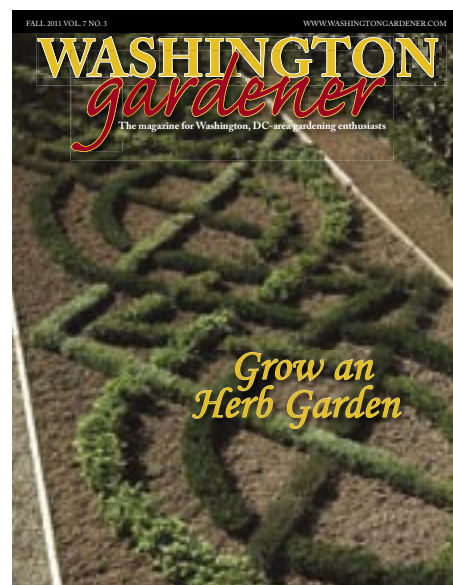
Washington Gardener Magazine

Reader Contest

For our **November 2011** *Washington Gardener* Reader Contest, *Washington Gardener* is giving away 5 sets of passes for two people to [the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardenfest of Lights](#).

A holiday tradition in Richmond, VA! The walk-through show features more than a half million lights arranged in botanical themes throughout the Garden. Visitors can also marvel at displays in the Garden's Conservatory and decorations in the Visitors Center and the Education and Library Complex. GardenFest includes family-friendly activities, botanical decorations, model trains, a bonfire (weather-permitting), oversized "LOVE" artwork, courtesy of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, and mazes of lights in the Children's Garden, holiday dining, music, and more! The show runs Friday, November 25, 2011 - Monday, January 9, 2012. (Closed December 24 and 25.) The hours are 5:00 to 10:00pm.

To enter to win a set of two passes to the Lewis Ginter Gardenfest of Lights, send an email with "GardenFest" in the subject line to WashingtonGardener@rcn.com by 5:00pm on Wednesday, November 30. In the body of the email please include your full name, email, and mailing address. The pass winners will be announced and notified by December 2.



NEW Fall 2011 Issue!

Our Fall magazine issue is printed and mailing now. If you are a current subscriber, look for it in your mailbox soon. The cover story is on Herb Gardens for our Mid-Atlantic region.

Also in this issue is the Edibles column, "Growing Great Sweet Potatoes" by Cindy Brown. She shares her tips on how to grow them here and the best varieties for our area.

Our Daytrip is to the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC. I visited there myself last year and cannot wait to get back next summer for an even longer stay.

You'll also find in this issue:

- Best Cover Crops for Your Vegetable Garden
- Earwigs: Beneficial or Nuisance?
- An Interview with an Influential Local Community Gardener
- Meeting Up with the Potomac Chapter of the Herb Society of America
- Toadlily Plant Profile and Varieties
- Before/After of a Former Slave Cabin's Landscape
- An Intriguing Personal Garden Story
- Coverage of several local events including our own Tomato Taste
- Answers to readers' questions such as why are some azalea leaves losing color, what is eating the zinnia foliage, and much, much more...

To subscribe, see the page 9 of this newsletter for a form to mail in or go to www.washingtongardener.com/index_files/subscribe.htm and use our PayPal credit card link.



Spotlight Special

COOL WAVE PANSIES

Delivering the same easy-care and vigorous spreading and trailing habit as Wave petunias, Cool Wave pansies meet gardeners' needs for extended cool-season color by exhibiting superior overwintering hardiness in southern climates up to Zone 5 and returning in spring earlier than other pansies.

The vibrant, medium-sized Cool Wave blooms quickly cover hanging baskets, fill out garden beds, and provide quick, high-impact ground cover.

Height: 6 to 8 inches (15 to 20 cm)

Spread: 24 to 30 inches (60 to 75 cm)

USDA Hardiness Zones: to Zone 5 (-20 to -10° F)

Light: Sun to part shade

Care: Best in fertile, well-drained soil.

Water as needed to keep soil evenly moist, especially in hot weather.

Watch for Cool Wave in select retailers in spring 2012, with a nationwide rollout in the fall.

Cool Wave is available in yellow, frost, white, and violet wing.



Quick Links to Recent Washington Gardener Blog Posts

- [Garden Bloggers' Bloom Day: Sunflowers in November](#)
- [Fenton Friday: Season's End](#)
- [New Blog - Cats in Gardens](#)
- [Video: Bulb Forcing 101](#)
- [Organic Gardening Practices Survey](#)

See more *Washington Gardener* Blog posts at WashingtonGardener.Blogspot.com.

November Garden To-Do List

Here is our comprehensive garden task list for gardens in the greater DC metro region for November 16-December 15. Your additions to this list are most welcome:

- Switch your deer deterrent spray, if you've been using the same one for several months. Re-apply after heavy rains.
- Have your soil tested at least once every three years.
- Cover carrots and other root crops with straw to extend the harvest season.
- Deadhead spent mums and plant them (if still in pots).
- Leaf drop on established evergreen shrubs and rhododendrons is normal this time of year.
- Bulb foliage already starting to surface? Don't fret. It is also normal and will not impact next year's blooms.
- Check for vole problems and set out traps.
- Caulk and seal your home to prevent wildlife coming indoors.
- Protect fig trees from freezing by piling up leaves around them.
- Clean the leaves of your indoor houseplants to prevent dust and film build-up.
- Collect plant seeds for next year's planting and for trading.
- Turn off outdoor water valve and store hoses.
- Store terra cotta pots in a shed or protected areas.
- Prune and mulch hybrid tea roses.
- Harvest last of your vegetables and till compost into the beds.
- Plant garlic for harvest next spring.
- Force spring bulbs for indoor blooms this January by potting them up, watering thoroughly, and placing them in your vegetable crisper for about 10 weeks.
- Remove this year's fruiting raspberry canes down to the ground from raspberries.
- Clean out your ponds and compost annual plants. Move hardy plants to deeper water. Cover with netting to block falling leaves.
- Clean, sharpen, and store your garden tools.
- Reduce fertilizing of indoor plants (except cyclamen).
- Set up a humidifier for indoor plants or at least place in pebble trays.
- Vacuum up any ladybugs that come in the house.
- Rotate houseplants to promote even growth.
- Pot up Paper Whites and Amaryllis for holiday blooming.
- Water evergreens and new plantings to keep them hydrated this winter.
- Fertilize your lawn and re-seed if needed.
- Transplant trees and shrubs.
- Continue to divide and transplant perennials.
- Rake leaves, shred, and gather in compost piles.
- Start feeding birds to get them in the habit for this winter.
- Attend a local garden club meeting.
- Turn your compost pile weekly and don't let it dry out. Work compost into your planting beds.
- Plant evergreens for winter interest.
- Weed.
- Take a break from holiday stress to enjoy your garden.
- Do not place live wreaths or greenery in between your door and a glass storm door, especially if the doorway is facing south. This placement will "cook" the arrangement on a sunny day.
- Sign up all your friends and family for garden magazine subscriptions as holiday gifts.

2011 Day-Trip

Garden Tours



Join Washington Gardener Magazine
for a Cheval's 2nd Act Garden Tour
Hosted by Behnke Nurseries

— TOUR LEADERS —

Kathy Jentz,
Editor, Washington Gardener Magazine and
Cheval Force Opp,
Garden Day-Trips columnist



Cheval's 2nd Act
Garden Tours
gardentours@gmail.com
www.chevals2ndact.com
(703) 395-1501



Garden Centers
Beltsville Potomac
11300 Baltimore Ave. 9545 River Road
(301) 937-1100 (301) 983-9200
www.behnkes.com

Garden Tours

How would you like to spend a leisurely day strolling through beautiful gardens? If this sounds like fun to you, then join us!

The Washington Gardener Magazine is partnered with Cheval's 2nd Act Garden Tours and Behnke Nurseries for 4 special garden day trips...

- 1 Mt. Cuba Center in Delaware ~ Thursday, April 21
- 2 Viette's Annual Daylily and Wine Festival in Shenandoah ~ **Saturday, July 16**
- 3 Chanticleer a Pleasure Grdens and Nemours Mansion and Gardens in Pennsylvania ~ Wednesday, September 21
- 4 Longwood Gardens Holiday Extravaganza in Pennsylvania ~ Thursday, December 15

You meet us at Behnke Nurseries and board a deluxe motor coach. Your adventure begins with personalized attention from your tour guides, Kathy Jentz, Editor, of Washington Gardener Magazine and Cheval Force Opp of Cheval's 2nd Act Garden Tours.

A day trip tour includes:

- Charter coach with restroom
- Reserved seating
- Garden DVD on ride
- Raffles for garden goodies
- Goodie bags
- Guided tour of all garden
- Video of destination (if available)
- Lunch (*for indicated tour)
- Bottled water and snacks
- Free parking

Join the adventure — and bring a friend!
Day trips make great gifts.



**TO REGISTER TODAY
for one or more of the tours:**

Go online at www.shop.behnkes.com.
Click on Behnke Garden Tours Bus Trips.
There is a \$3.00/person handling fee to pay online.

**OR mail a registration form to: Garden Tours,
8000 N. Park St., Dunn Loring, VA 22027
Please make check payable to Cheval's 2nd Act.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION
email gardentours@gmail.com or call (703) 395-1501

DC-Area Gardening Calendar ~ Upcoming Events ~ Nov 16-Dec 15, 2011

Join Us For:
Seed Swapping
Door Prizes
Planting Tips
Expert Speakers
Goody Bags

Washington
Gardener
Magazine
presents the
7th Annual
Washington
Gardener
Seed Exchange

on Saturday,
January 28, 2012
National Seed Swap Day!
from 12:30 – 4:00PM
at Brookside Gardens
in Wheaton, MD
AND
on Saturday,
February 4, 2012
from 12:30 – 4:00PM
at Green Spring Gardens
in Alexandria, VA

Registration will open
on December 1, 2011
at www.washingtongardener.com.

Washington Gardener Magazine
subscribers get \$5 off
the \$15 attendee fee!

- November 19, 12:00noon-1:00pm
MONTHLY FOODWAYS: The Tidewater Gift
at the National Colonial Farm, Free.

Join us for a kitchen table conversation as we introduce you to the epicurean delights of colonial Marylanders. Learn how our tastes and the food itself have changed over 300 years as we explore the “receipts” (recipes) and meal preparation for everything from peas and pottage to food traditions for which Maryland is known. This month’s menu will include collups of oysters, buttered crabs, baked fish, oyster stew and tidewater crabcake.

For more information or to register for any of the following calendar of events and classes hosted by the Accokeek Foundation, visit the website at www.accokeek.org/events, call 301-283-2113 or email accfound@accokeek.org. Events, classes, and workshops will be held at 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD 20607.

- November 21, 6:30pm
Arranging the Autumn Bouquet with Christopher Polychronis of Michael’s Florist
in Lake Ridge, McCoy Conference Room, Sudley North Government Building, 7987 Ashton Avenue, Manassas 20109.

Learn the techniques of flower arranging & make your own arrangement that will last through the holiday. \$40 fee Class size limited, register early. To register call 703-792-7747 or email master_gardener@pwcgov.org. Make checks payable to MGPW. Contact us first to reserve a spot, registration complete upon receipt of payment. Registration ends 11/15/11. Mail checks to MGPW, 8033 Ashton Ave., Suite 105, Manassas VA 20109. Please bring a can of food to donate to SERVE for Operation Turkey.

- November 21, 8:00pm
The Silver Spring Garden Club’s November 2011 meeting: America’s Treasure: Our Native Azaleas.

The rich flora of North America boasts 17 species of native azaleas. Don Hyatt, a noted authority on these plants, will first introduce the various species showing the range of flower color and form he has observed in the wild. Don will then shift to a series of visual tours to the scenic places where these native azaleas often grow. Join him in the Southern Appalachians when rare native azaleas and wildflowers herald the arrival of spring. Experience breath-taking vistas along the Appalachian Trail near Roan Mountain in high season when the flame azaleas and rhododendrons turn entire mountaintops ablaze with color. Climb to the top of Gregory Bald in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park to see one of the most impressive floral displays of them all. Share his appreciation of gorgeous scenery, native azaleas, and wildflower companions as Don “chases the bloom” from coast

to coast throughout the season. As is Don’s typical presentation style, expect an entertaining and fast-paced program filled with many beautiful photographs, lots of information, occasional touches of humor, and a few digital tricks in this multi-media presentation.

Don Hyatt holds a Bachelors degree in Horticulture with a double major in Biochemistry, and a Masters degree in Computer Science. Ithough professionally a mathematics and computer science teacher for 33 years, Don has maintained a life-long interest in plants of all kinds. He started gardening as a toddler, and continues to maintain his garden, now in its 60th year, at the family home where he grew up. After retiring from teaching in 2002, Don has devoted most of his time to horticultural interests, especially the study of native azaleas, rhododendrons, and wildflowers in their natural habitats. He has served on the national boards of both the Azalea Society of America and the American Rhododendron Society, and has received numerous awards. Don is an accomplished botanical illustrator and photographer, and has authored many articles on azaleas and rhododendrons. He has become a popular speaker at national and international conferences on a variety of horticultural topics.

The meeting is at Brookside Gardens Visitors Center, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD. It is open to the public and free to attend.

- November 24, 2011, through January 2, 2012
The U.S. Botanic Garden’s annual holiday exhibit, Season’s Greenings.

Our Conservatory is adorned with wreaths, garlands, living ornaments, seasonal plant displays and one of the largest indoor decorated trees in Washington, D.C. Our famous Garden Railway features model trains and imaginative buildings created with plant materials. Free.

Held at the United States Botanic Garden, 100 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20001. Details at www.usbg.gov.

- November 26, 2011 - January 8, 2012
Conservatory Winter Display and Train Exhibit at Brookside Gardens South Conservatory Train Exhibit. North Conservatory open evenings only November 28-December 2. Both houses open December 3-January 8 from 10:00am-5:00pm - Free Brookside Gardens Conservatory, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD.

- November 28 - December 30
Christmas at Oatlands at Oatlands Historic House and Gardens, 20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane, Leesburg, VA 20175.

Enjoy this lovely property decorated for the season. Our special holiday exhibit theme this year is “Women of Oatlands.” We are

DC-Area Gardening Calendar ~ Upcoming Events ~ Nov 16-Dec 15, 2011

open Mon.-Sat. 10am to 5pm, Sun. 1pm to 5pm. The last tour of each day begins at 4pm. Regular admission fees apply, but of course, members of Friends of Oatlands are always admitted free.

Special Things to Do and Enjoy at Oatlands!

Four Seasons of Oatlands Miniature Art Show & Sale Nov. 28-Dec. 30 in the Carriage House. This is free and open to the public during our regular hours. (Artists, click on "News" in the menu at left for entry information.)

Gingerbread House Contest on December 18 with Child and Adult Categories. Advance registration is required and the deadline to register is 5pm on December 12. Please call 703 777 3174 x100 for details.

Christmas Caroling from 4:30-6:00pm on December 3, 17. \$12 adults, \$5 for children under 12 includes apple cider, cookies, a walk through Oatlands spectacularly decorated mansion, and caroling in the drawing room.

Details by calling 703.777.3174 or visit www.oatlands.org.

• November 30, 12:30-2pm

Book Discussion: The Orchid Thief at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312.

Expand your gardening knowledge in a social setting. Join us at Green Spring for an interesting book discussion on Susan Orlean's the Orchid Thief. Bring a bag lunch. Light refreshments served. Books will be available for sale at Green Spring Gardens. Register on-line at fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/ or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code: 2904874302. Cost: \$5.

• December 2, December 3, December 9 at 10:00am or 1:00pm

Holiday Wreath-Making Workshop (for adults and children ages 12+) at Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, 1644 31 Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20007.

Create a holiday wreath from a variety of plant materials grown here at Tudor Place. Cedar boughs, magnolia leaves, berry-laden holly, pinecones, and boxwood all make distinctive wreaths. Wreaths are medium-sized, and all materials are provided.

Members: \$30 (per wreath)

Non-members: \$40 (per wreath)

REGISTRATION: Call 202/965-0400 x108

Details at www.tudorplace.org.

• December 3, 10:00am-4:00pm

FOBG Holiday Wreath and Centerpiece

Sale, Sponsored by the Friends of Brookside Gardens at the Visitors Center, 1800 Glenalan Avenue, Wheaton, MD.

You can dress up your front door or mantelpiece with fragrant evergreens (Mmmm-mm! Just imagine the scent!) from the FOBG holiday greens sale. You can choose from freshly made 18" boxwood wreaths with

bows, beautifully shaped 12" boxwood trees (perfect for the dining table), and evergreen centerpieces (great for gifts).

• December 4, 12noon-4pm

Gardeners' Holiday Open House at Green Spring Gardens at Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312. Treat yourself to a day of holiday fun in the garden. There's a little something for everyone: botanic decorations, a toy train display, doll and nutcracker collections, a children's puppet show, refreshments and a gift shop for your holiday shopping. This festive day is for gardeners of all ages, individuals and families. Call 703-642-5173 for more information or go to www.greenspring.org.

• December 6, 6:30pm

Educational Workshop and More: Decorating with Nature and Pot Luck Supper.

Program held at the Nicolai's 12325 Hatton Point Road, Fort Washington, MD. 301-292-3667.

Participants will create traditional holiday decoration and make boxwood wreaths for themselves and others who have placed orders.

Hosted by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, www.TrashFreePotomac.org.

• December 9, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

December 10 7:00 – 9:00 pm

December 11, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Full Moon Hike at the US National Arboretum. Meet in the Visitor Center trailer.

This four-mile-long, mildly strenuous hike is a magical trip through moonlit gardens, meadows, and woods. Discover how the striking landscape of the arboretum changes under the moon and stars of the night sky. Your guide will share points of special interest and seasonal highlights. The two-hour walk over hilly and uneven terrain is a hike, not a tour, so wear good walking shoes. Not recommended for children under 16. No pets, please. Fee \$22 (\$18 FONA) Registration required. Call 202-245-2726 or go to www.usna.usda.gov.

United States National Arboretum
3501 New York Avenue, NE; Washington, DC 20002.

Still More Event Listings

See even more event listings on the Washington Gardener Yahoo discussion list. Join the list at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WashingtonGardener/>.

Event Listing Submissions

To submit an event for this listing, please contact: Wgardenermag@aol.com and put "Event" in the email subject head. Our next deadline is December 12 for the December 15 edition of this newsletter featuring events taking place from December 16-January 15, 2011.

Your Ad Here

Are you trying to reach gardeners in the greater DC region/Mid-Atlantic area? *Washington Gardener Enews* goes out on the 15th of every month and is a free sister publication to *Washington Gardener* magazine. The ad rate is \$250 per issue or \$1,000 for five (5) issues within one calendar year.

The ad deadline is the 10th of each month. Please submit your ad directly to: wgardenermag@aol.com.

Love Reading?

We are looking for a few additional volunteers who live in the greater Washington, DC, region to serve on our Reader Panel. This will consist of about two email exchanges per month. Reader Panelists may also be asked to review new gardening books and test out new garden plants, tools, and seeds.

To join the *Washington Gardener* Volunteer Reader Panel, please send an email with your name and address to: wgardenermag@aol.com. We look forward to having you be a vital part of our local publication and its gardening mission.

**Advanced
Landscape Plant
IPM PHC
Short Course
January 3-6, 2012**

**For registration information
contact:**

Avis Koeiman

Department of Entomology

4112 Plant Sciences Building

University of Maryland

College Park, MD 20742

Tel: 301-405-3913

Email: akoeiman@umd.edu



Giving Your Tender Plants Winter Protection

By Kathy Jentz, Editor of Washington Gardener Magazine

“Bundle up,” your mom always advised you when you went out to play in the winter winds. The same advice applies for your tender and newer outdoor plantings. The frigid northern winds and freezing nighttime temps can damage or kill those perennials, shrubs, and trees that are more marginal in our Mid-Atlantic planting zones. If a plant is classified zone 8 or above, then it is wise to take a few minutes to evaluate it for winter protection needs. Here are the top methods to give your plantings a bit of warmth and relief this winter:

- Take it indoors. You may not have a greenhouse, but you probably have a garage, cellar, or protected porch. Sometimes all your potted tender plant needs is a sheltered spot for those worst weeks of the year. You can also wrap a blanket or burlap around the base of the pot to keep it insulated. Alternatively, group a bunch of pots together and stuff the area with leaves.
- Plant it right. The warmest part of your yard is most likely at the base of a southern-facing wall. This is the spot to plant your camellias, figs, and others in your zonal edge.
- Mulch it. Pile up mulch around the base of the plant to give its root-zone a nice blanket of warmth. Grafted trees and shrubs especially are vulnerable to die-back, so give an extra mulching to your fruit trees and rose bushes now. Be sure to pull pack that mulch layer at the first signs of spring.
- Cover it. If you have just a few small tender plants to cover or want to give an early start to next season, use a cloche or glass bell. (An assortment of Colonial era cloches is pictured here.). You can make a modern cloche out of plastic soda bottles or milk jugs. Be sure to take them off or vent them during the day. To vent them, you can prop them up with a small stick or on stones.
- Blanket it. Watch the local weather closely and on the coldest nights of the year, have old blankets and sheets on the ready to throw over your plants. This is a good precaution to take on nights with an ice warning. Many plants that are solid Zone 6 and 7 can still suffer severe winter damage and breakage, so go ahead and cover them when an ice storm is predicted. Then uncover when the danger of icing has passed.
- Insulate it. Surround your most vulnerable plants with a metal cage (like your old tomato cages) or plastic mesh and stuff the frame full of leaves. You can also wrap the plant in burlap tied with twine to achieve the same purpose. Then unwrap and unstuff your plant in early spring.
- Build it. If you find you have a real cold spot in your garden that is a real frigid micro-climate, consider more long-term solutions for this spot. You can build a berm (earthen-wall) or stone wall to block some of the winds. You can plant a border of tall evergreens as a wind-break also. Consider also the next time you out an a shed, house expansion, or other out-building that this may be the location to place it and thereby create a new, warmer micro-climate for your plantings.



Cloches for Winter Protection



Longwood Holiday Tour with Washington Gardener Magazine Organized by Garden Tours

Wednesday, December 15, 2011, 10:00AM-6:00PM

Leaving and returning from BEHNKE NURSERIES, Beltsville, MD

A HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA! Longwood Gardens make the holidays shine. Imagine half a million brilliant lights, decorated trees that soar 75 feet, and dancing fountains shooting skyward. A holiday extravaganza!

This year Longwood's holiday displays are even sweeter as it is transformed into a gingerbread fantasy featuring fanciful and imaginative displays throughout the Gardens. See Longwood landmarks recreated in gingerbread, stand beneath towering trees adorned with gingerbread ornaments and don't miss the candy-laden Music Room overflowing with sweet holiday cheer. This is a holiday outing you will want to eat up!

A 4.5-acre heated indoor Conservatory, featuring a giant Art Nouveau tapestry made from pink poinsettias and ferns, and the richest floral displays imaginable. A Longwood Christmas is a celebration months in the making. And if all the must-sees aren't enough, there are special holiday performances.

In the gift shop you'll find unique selections of home & garden items, apparel, toys, plants and Longwood signature items. Something to delight everyone.

THIS TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- ~ entrance fees to Longwood Garden
- ~ charter coach with restroom
- ~ reserved seating
- ~ garden advice Q&A with "Dr. Chlorophyll"
- ~ garden DVDs on ride
- ~ cafe voucher for choice of appetizer, entree, dessert, and beverage
- ~ optional guided garden tours
- ~ raffle drawings for garden goodies
- ~ goody bags
- ~ bottled water and snacks
- ~ free parking at Behnke Nurseries

To register, please use the form below. (One form per person.)

✂ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

Name of seatmate _____

We will try to seat groups together, but cannot guarantee group seating.

Name of group _____

Fees:

\$100.00 each

\$95.00 each discounted fee for Washington Gardener Magazine subscribers

Check/money order # _____ ~ Please make payable to "Cheval's 2nd Act"

Send this registration form along with your payment to:

Garden Tours, 8000 N Park St, Dunn Loring, VA 22027

Registration deadline:

December 12, 2011

Full refund if canceled by November 30.

No refunds after December 1.

Questions?

Cheval Opp at 703.395.1501

Gardentours@gmail.com

www.chevals2ndact.com

www.WashingtonGardener.com

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The magazine for Washington DC area gardening enthusiasts.

REGISTRATION FORM ~ Act Soon ~ We expect an early sell-out.



WASHINGTON gardener BACK ISSUE SALE!

YOU CAN REQUEST A SINGLE COPY OF BACK ISSUES FOR \$6 EACH OR, ANY 6 BACK ISSUES, FOR \$24 OR ALL 30+ BACK ISSUES FOR JUST \$100. **PRICE INCLUDES POSTAGE AND HANDLING.** PLEASE SPECIFY THE ISSUE DATE(S). ORDER MUST BE PREPAID BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. **SEND YOUR ORDER TO:**
WASHINGTON GARDENER, 826 PHILADELPHIA AVE., SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

MARCH/APRIL 2005

- Landscape DIY vs. Pro
- Prevent Gardener's Back
- Ladew Topiary Gardens
- Cherry Trees

MAY/JUNE 2005

- Stunning Plant Combinations
- Turning Clay into Rich Soil
- Wild Garlic
- Strawberries

JULY/AUGUST 2005

- Water Gardens
- Poison Ivy
- Disguising a Sloping Yard
- Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2005

- Container Gardens
- Clematis Vines
- Sponge Gardening/Rain Gardens
- 5 Insect Enemies of Gardeners

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2005

- Backyard Bird Habitats
- Hellebores
- Building a Coldframe
- Bulb Planting Basics

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

- Garden Decor Principles
- Primroses
- Tasty Heirloom Veggies
- U.S. Botanic Garden

MARCH/APRIL 2006

- Top 10 Small Trees and Large Shrubs
- Azaleas
- Figs, Berries, & Persimmons
- Basic Pruning Principles

MAY/JUNE 2006

- Using Native Plants in Your Landscape
- Crabgrass
- Peppers
- Secret Sources for Free Plants

JULY/AUGUST 2006

- Hydrangeas
- Theme Gardens
- Agave
- Find Garden Space by Growing Up

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006

- Shade Gardening
- Hosta Care Guide
- Fig-growing Tips and Recipes
- Oatlands Plantation

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2006

- Horticultural Careers
- Juniper Care Guide
- Winter Squash Growing Tips and Recipes
- Weed-free Beds with Layer/Lasagna Gardening

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2007

- Indoor Gardening
- Daphne Care Guide
- Asparagus Growing Tips and Recipes
- Houseplant Propagation

MARCH/APRIL 2007

- Stormwater Management
- Dogwood Selection & Care Guide
- Early Spring Vegetable Growing Tips
- Franciscan Monastery Bulb Gardens

MAY/JUNE 2007

- Roses: Easy Care Tips
- Native Roses & Heirloom Roses
- Edible Flowers
- How to Plant a Bare-root Rose

JULY/AUGUST 2007

- Groundcovers: Alternatives to Turfgrass
- How to Pinch, Prune, & Dead-head
- A Trip to the William Paca House & Gardens
- Hardy Geraniums

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

- Succulents: Hardy to our Region
- Drought-tolerant Natives
- Southern Vegetables
- Seed Saving Savvy Tips

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

- Gardening with Children
- Kid-Friendly Vegetables
- Indoor Bulb Forcing Basics
- National Museum of the American Indian
- Versatile Viburnums

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- Our Favorite Garden Tools
- Indoor Bulb Forcing Basics
- Delightful Daffodils

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- Our Favorite Garden Tools
- Coral Bells (Heucheras)
- Brookside's Phil Normandy
- Japanese-style Garden

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- Seed Starting Basics
- Flavorful Fruiting Natives
- Build a Better Tomato Cage

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- Edible Grasses to Graze On
- Slug and Snail Control
- Sage Advice: Sun-loving Salvias

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- Autumn Edibles — What to Plant Now
- Ladybug Lore
- Beguiling Barrenworts (Epimediums)
- The Best Time to Plant Spring-blooming Bulbs
- 14 Dry Shade Plants Too Good to Overlook

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- How to Prune Fruiting Trees, Shrubs, and Vines
- 5 Top Tips for Overwintering Tender Bulbs
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- A Daytrip to Tudor Place

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- Grow Winter Hazel for Gorgeous Winter Color

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- Best Local Viewing Spots for Virginia Bluebells

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- Grow and Enjoy Eggplant
- How to Chuck a Woodchuck from Your Garden

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- Passionflowers
- Mulching Basics
- What's Bugging Your Tomatoes
- Growing Hops

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- Apples
- How To Save Tomato Seeds
- Persimmons

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- How to Start Seeds Indoors
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- Unusual Edibles to Grow in Our Region
- Visit to Riversdale House

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- Building a Raised Bed
- Dwarf Iris
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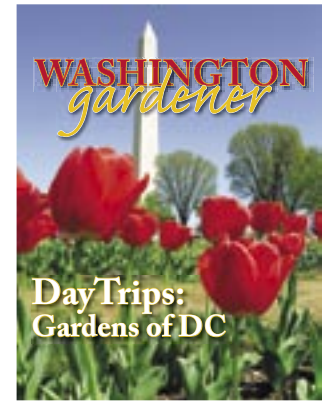
- Paths and Walkways
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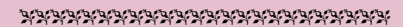
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WINTER 2011-12

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Magazine Excerpt:

Autumn Onion (*Allium stellatum*) by Barry Glick

Autumn can be a very dull and boring time in the garden. You miss all of the colorful flowering plants that have delighted you in the spring and summer while you're busy deadheading or collecting seeds. The memories of the flowers you've enjoyed are just that. You're wishing there were perennials that would bring you color and joy this time of year and... well... your wish has come true. The "Plant Genie" wishes to acquaint you with *Allium stellatum*. Commonly known as "Prairie Onion," "Cliff Onion," and "Autumn Onion," *Allium stellatum* is a native, fall-blooming perennial bulb that will grow happily anywhere in the U.S.

The species name stellatum is botanical Latin for "starry," and refers to the umbels. According to Wikipedia, "this species was described for

science by John Bellenden Ker in the early 19th century."

Their long-lasting, two- to three-inch lavender/pink, star-like blooms seem to explode like fireworks at the tips of their slender 12-18" arching stems. They look vital for several weeks and make wonderful cut flowers.

In my garden, I've found that full sun to light shade is their preference, with average to dry soil. *Allium stellatum* seems to have no insect, pest, or disease problems. And you needn't worry about Bambi or any other critters bothering them, either; the deer don't find any members of the Allium (onion) family appealing.

It is attractive to pollinators. Many native bees and small flies flock to its late summer/early autumn blooms....

Want to learn more about Autumn Onion? Read the rest of this *GoingNative* column in the Fall 2011 issue of *Washington Gardener Magazine*. See the subscription information and details below.

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