

A publication of the Friends of the National Arboretum

## ARBOR FRIENDS

WINTER 2018

## **Thank you to our friends and supporters!**

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



#### DEAR FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM:

It's quiet here on the grounds of the National Arboretum as I write this, but just as the roots of many plants stay active in the winter months, the community around the Arboretum is growing and preparing for the months ahead. As a member and supporter of FONA, you're an important part of that community—and the Arboretum's future.

One of our goals in the coming year is to increase the size of the Arboretum's community of supporters. And we're especially interested in building stronger ties to the local community that surrounds the Arboretum. To help us foster those connections, FONA recently commissioned the nationally recognized landscape design firm of Reed Hilderbrand to develop a new vision for the Arboretum's core meadow area and a revised plan for visitor and traffic flow through the grounds. While less ambitious than a full Master Plan, Reed Hilderbrand's work will help guide FONA and the USNA in coming years as we look to enhance the Arboretum and make it more friendly to visitors from around the corner and around the world.

I will brief you in full in a future issue of Arbor Friends (as well as on our website) when the project is fully completed, but suffice it to say that several of the enhancements we would like to add are already emerging. They range from reopening a gate (possibly a pedestrian-only gate) at M Street NE on the Arboretum's south side to revising traffic patterns in the Arboretum's road system, including the option of removing some paved surfaces. Other potential developments include focusing on making the entire Arboretum more pedestrian friendly and developing a site for an events pavilion.

Needless to say, the prospect of revitalizing the Arboretum and enhancing its appeal to the community is an exciting one. Please stay tuned for more details! But as exciting at these ideas are, they will only bear fruit with the support of the entire community around the Arboretum, especially members like you.

So changes both large and small are starting to happen here at the Arboretum. The days are already getting longer, our bald eagles have returned for another year, and plants are being prepped in the greenhouses for warmer days. And FONA, with your support, is working to make the Arboretum a place that everyone in the community treasures and enjoys.

Thanks again for your continuing support of FONA. I hope we'll see you here soon.

Tom McGuire, Executive Director Friends of the National Arboretum tmcguire@fona.org 202.544.8733

**ON THE COVER** The first snow of 2018 is suspended by the leaves and berries of a holly tree (*llex* 'Emily Bruner') in the Holly and Magnolia Collections.

B

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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

## On positioning...



#### THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM FINISHED 2017 POSITIONED

for a great 2018. In keeping with our strategic plan and vision, we finished strong in all major components of our mission, from research and education to stakeholder coordination and public engagement. On the science front, most of our scientists and their programs have wrapped up their five-year planning assessments. This peer-reviewed process is revealing what we have always known: that our scientists are leaders in their respective areas of expertise and are having an impact on plant science and agriculture across

the nation and around the world in the areas of plant viruses and bacterial pathogens; plant breeding, genetics, and germplasm conservation; and the taxonomy and nomenclature of cultivated and wild-crop relatives. This strength has positioned us such that when the U.S. Forest Service grew increasingly concerned over a new disease-like syndrome affecting our native beech (*Fagus grandiflora*), our germplasm and pathology scientists were ready to take an active role in battling this threat to American forests.

Our position as a vital component of our community was reinforced by a wonderful article in the *Washington Post* on the beauty of the National Arboretum in winter. As a place of quiet solitude and solace in the heart of a hectic Washington, DC, the article reinforces what we already knew: that beautiful gardens, green spaces, and natural plant communities are critical to the health and well-being of folks living in urban areas.

At the same time, our expert staff and their knowledge of curating a world-class collection led to consultation and national press coverage with the National Park Service and the White House on one of the most iconic trees in DC, the Jackson magnolia. As the story goes, the southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) was planted in honor of President Andrew Jackson's wife, Rachel, who died before his inauguration. Brought from his Tennessee home, the tree has endured life in DC and winters above its native range for the last 190 years. Unfortunately, the tree has suffered, and despite excellent tree care, is in decline and will ultimately fail. Fortunately, this contingency was planned for, and replacement trees are already growing to maintain the lineage of this iconic specimen.

The National Arboretum has one of the world's great magnolia collections, with nearly 500 plants encompassing more than 150 unique taxa and 40 species, including two dozen selections of southern magnolia. We truly have them from A to Z, with *Magnolia amoena* to *M. zenii*, and these species are some of the first arboreal denizens to flower at the end of winter. As one of our oldest collections, it encompasses our entire mission, which includes breeding (we have introduced 14 hybrids to the industry), taxonomy (we authored the magnolia treatment for the *Flora of North America*), and germplasm (we conserve ex situ a half dozen vulnerable magnolia species).

On that note, please reflect on the value of our gardens and mission as we greet 2018 positioned for a wonderful year of gardening.

Richard T. Olsen, Director The U.S. National Arboretum

## 2017 FONA's Year in Numbers



**6,657 YOUTH SERVED** through Washington Youth Garden's education programs



5,449 NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, AND GRASSES planted along Springhouse Run by 115 VOLUNTEERS



**3,889 HOURS WORKED** by our fabulous USNA interns



1,545 REVELERS at our 6 SUMMER EVENINGS CONCERTS



528 ATTENDEES at our 23rd Annual Dinner Under the Stars



**203 RUNNERS** at the first OAKtoberfest 5K Fun Run



26th ANNUAL Garden & Plant Sale was held



12 FULL MOON HIKES enjoyed by 298 ADVENTUROUS HIKERS

## PLANTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

Visitors to the National Arboretum likely have favorite plants they return to see season to season, year after year. We asked Arboretum staff members to name just one of their favorite plants. Here's a glimpse of the ones that made it to the top of their lists. We hope you will be inspired to seek out these wonders on your next visit.

## Kolkwitzia amabilis, Beautybush

I am drawn to plants that have a story behind them, aside from wonderful phenotypic attributes such as flower color, dry shade tolerance, and size. One of these is *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, commonly known as Beautybush, a species in the Caprifoliaceae family. It is the only species in the genus *Kolkwitzia*, and it was first introduced to the United States from China by E.H. Wilson in 1901 and 1910. It became a common shrub in U.S. gardens after WWI but has since fallen out of favor. *K. amabilis* is a large deciduous shrub with fantastic sprays of pink to white trumpetlike yellow-throated flowers in early to mid spring. The light tan bark is flaky but not quite exfoliating. It is easy to maintain by pruning after it flowers and, because it is a very tough plant, it will tolerate USDA Hardiness Zones 4a to 8b.

The story that draws me to this plant is that this species was not successfully collected again in the United States until 1994 when Kevin Conrad, USNA's Curator of the Woody Landscape Plant Germplasm Repository, along with other members of the North America-China Plant Exploration Consortium discovered a population during a six-week expedition in the Wudang Mountains in central China. This collection not only helped preserve the now-threatened wild species but also added diversity to the genetics available for breeding purposes and for the development of new cultivars in the United States. One cultivar currently available is *Kolkwitzia amabilis* 'Marado', with the trademark name of DREAM CATCHER, which has golden foliage as opposed to plain green. The species can be found on the Arboretum grounds in China Valley.

MARTIN SCANLON has been with the U.S. National Arboretum for the last 15 years and spends a portion of every fall in search of seeds for the Woody Landscape Plant Germplasm Repository.



## Cornus kousa var. chinensis, Chinese Dogwood

The Dogwood Collection at the Arboretum has some venerable older trees that put on quite a show in May, after our native dogwood, *Cornus florida*, has finished flowering. One of my favorite sights is the abundant blooms of the Chinese Dogwood, *Cornus kousa* var. *chinensis*. Over the years, one of the trees in this group has really impressed me with both its size and number of flowers. The tree produces so many flowers that they actually cover the leaves and weigh down the branches. In some years, double flowers have been seen on individual branches. The multi-branched specimen at the Arboretum has a canopy spread of about 40 feet and a height of about 25 to 30 feet. Although this tree is showing signs of age and decline, it should be here, greeting spring with its abundant flowers, for many years to come. This tree is in the Dogwood Collection in the upper island bed, on the left side as you walk toward the Anacostia River Overlook.

**GEORGE WATERS** is a gardener/technician. He has worked in many different collections at the Arboretum for more than 22 years. He currently works in the Dogwood and Conifer Collections.





## Rhododendron fortunei, Fortune's Rhododendron

When I first started working at the Arboretum back in 2004, I was hired as an Agricultural Science Research Technician in the Asian Collections. I thought I knew a lot about plants when I started in the Asian Collections, but encountering a large number of plants that I was unfamiliar with showed me that I had much to learn. The overall beauty of the Asian Collections with its topography and location next to the Anacostia River really makes it a special place for me.

Springtime was when I was first exposed to the beauty of *Rhododendron fortunei*. I had never come across such a fragrant and beautiful rhododendron before. The flowers are a lovely pale pink and you can smell the heady floral fragrance in the air all around the plant and from fairly far away on warmer days. When this rhododendron is not in bloom, the dark green paddle-shaped leaves are very attractive. Unfortunately, the specimens that I had fallen in love with next to the pagoda have succumbed to *Botryosphaeria* canker, a stem dieback disease. Luckily, we still have beautiful specimens in the Dogwood Collection that bloom happily with large, dense clusters of light pink flowers every spring.

**BRADLEY EVANS** has managed the Introduction Garden since 2006, which encompasses the areas around the Visitor Center. He uses his love of all plants, particularly interesting foliage plants, to enhance the visitor experience at the Arboretum.



The Arkansas Bluestar's golden fall color is intermixed with the 'Raydon's Favorite' aster in this iconic autumn scene near the Arboretum's Capitol Columns.

PHOTO CREDIT: U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

## Amsonia hubrichtii, Arkansas Bluestar

When people ask me to recommend a favorite plant, most expect me to recommend a daylily because I'm such a daylily fanatic. Many cultivars are lovely, and they re-bloom reliably, which earns them a prominent space in many gardens, but it's difficult for me to pick a single favorite. One plant currently growing in the perennial collection fits the description of a plant that keeps on giving: Amsonia hubrichtii, Arkansas Bluestar. In April-May, clusters of sky blue to white 1/2" flowers appear on 18-24" stems that occasionally re-bloom into early June. The feathery foliage continues growing throughout the spring and summer to a height of 36". With its status as a U.S. native, exceptional drought tolerance (little to no supplemental watering in 2016 and 2017), resistance to deer and other pests, and its brilliant gold fall color, this trouble-free plant is over the top. I'll be working toward breeding a daylily that fits this description, but until then, A. hubrichtii is a great companion! 🌳

CHRIS VON KOHN is the horticulturist in the Boxwood and Perennial Collections and has been an avid gardener and amateur daylily breeder for the past 15 years.

## Chimonanthus praecox, Wintersweet or Japanese Allspice

One of my favorite plants is *Chimonanthus praecox*, a large shrub unfamiliar to many outside the world of horticulture. I first got to know it years ago during my internship in the National Herb Garden. An untidy and nondescript large deciduous shrub, it tends to be a gawky plain Jane for much of the year. But then it blooms with many small waxy flowers in midwinter, just when it loses its leaves. The flowers range from very pale yellow to deep yellow, and sometimes the blooms have a red throat. For this reason, it is sometimes mistaken for *Forsythia*, although they do not resemble each other in size or shape. Anything that blooms in winter is a delight, but the real reason to appreciate this plant is its wonderful sweet, spicy fragrance that can fill an entire area on a day when the air is still.

There are several places on the Arboretum grounds to visit this plant, but my favorite is in the Asian Collections. Descend from the Asian Collections parking lot straight down the main path until you come to a bench overlooking the Anacostia River. The wall of large shrubs to your right is wintersweet. The seeds came from Tbilisi Botanic Garden in 1976. Other places where you can find wintersweet at the Arboretum are at the top of the China Valley path in the Asian Collections, the National Herb Garden's Fragrance Garden, and in the southwest corner of the Bonsai Museum's Stroll Garden. Just follow your nose!

AMY FORSBERG has been a horticulture technician at the National Arboretum since 2006, gardening in the Asian Collections, Bonsai Museum, and currently in the Friendship Garden.





### Punica granatum, Pomegranate

Pomegranates have grown in the National Herb Garden almost since the garden's inception, but it wasn't until recently that I took a keen interest in them. Because of this newfound attraction, we've recently added three cultivars to our plantings. They are great landscape shrubs or small trees because they have an informal, upright habit; have fanciful reddish-orange flowers; exhibit bright yellow fall foliage; and best of all, they produce the delicious fruit (given the right cultivar) known around the world. In Washington, DC, some of the hardiest cultivars can be grown outdoors in the ground; less hardy types make great plants for large containers and can be moved into a cool garage or basement in late autumn after the leaves have dropped.

Aside from its horticultural characteristics, the role of *Punica* in history is even more intriguing than the plant itself. Being something of a word enthusiast, I love learning the origins of plant names—pomegranate is Latin for "seeded apple." In mid-to late-17<sup>th</sup>-century Europe, there was a specialized infantry soldier whose role was to dispense a specific type of munition, one that looked remarkably like pomegranate fruit, called a *grenade* (French translation of the Latin, or *granada* in Spanish). From this, the military title grenadier was derived. To this day, there are various grenadier infantry whose emblem incorporates a stylized pomegranate fruit (e.g., in Britain, India, and Switzerland). I'm always amazed at how influential plants can be in all manner of situations, be they historical or horticultural!

**CHRISTINE MOORE** is the horticulturist in the National Herb Garden; among her favorite things there are the myriad stories about humans' reliance on plants throughout the millenia.

# American Holly: an Overlooked National Treasure



he U.S. National Arboretum has one of the largest and oldest assemblages of cultivars of American holly (*Ilex opaca*) you'll find anywhere today. Although it is a common component of untended areas and older-home landscapes, many people might not realize that the majority of hollies sold in nurseries today are of Eurasian descent or, at best, are hybrids with some American holly parentage. In spite of its numerous named cultivars, American holly is relatively undeveloped as a landscape ornamental. Variations from one form to the next are often subtle, especially when compared with Eurasian cultivars. It has even been said that there are simply too many cultivars of American holly; few, if any, are commercially important. However, *I. opaca* does have some very attractive and unusual forms, and the many subtly varied cultivars exist for a good reason, as I'll explain later. Even an ordinary American holly almost always makes a beautiful, tough, and useful plant under extremely trying conditions while asking very little in return.

Although it is often overlooked, *I. opaca* makes an uncommonly noble specimen with the scale and poise to fit naturally even with the sort of monumental neoclassical architecture that abounds in Washington, DC. Its ability to age gracefully and maintain its dense, elegantly layered boughs with little or no pruning sets it apart from many nonnative evergreen hollies and their hybrids, which have outer branches that tend to droop over time and lose their leaves except near the branch ends. Its attractive, naturally cone-like habit and branching structure probably evolved in part to help it resist breakage from heavy snow and ice.

American hollies need not be the exclusive domain of grand, well-tended plantings; established plants will endure extremes of heat and drought, shade and sun, heavy pruning, and even deicing salt. Not far from my home is a beautifully solid, lollipop-shaped specimen growing in a punishing strip of parched ground between a neglected sidewalk and a busy highway, directly under a low-hanging power line in blazing sun, with only trampled weed grasses for company. I can't imagine a more perfect, problem-free tree for that spot, although the plant is so beautiful that it seems a little out of place. The number of individual hollies that appear as gumdrops and assorted other shapes in front of homes throughout the Washington, DC, area illustrate its tolerance to regular clipping.

Although the American holly is distinctly unfashionable today, and the average sapling you might find growing spontaneously along the roadway isn't likely to inspire a new cultivar name, such plants (or rather, the seeds they germinated from) may literally have fallen from the "ugly tree." There was a time not so long ago when the species was considered to be in serious decline, with the choicest specimens being poached during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to satisfy appetites for living holiday decorations. Thanks mostly to the efforts of a few individuals who tirelessly sought out and preserved the most attractive trees they could find by propagating and naming them, we still have a sampling of the cream of the crop secured in a few older botanical garden collections. Selections were made primarily for foliage color, shape, and gloss, for fruit size, color, and abundance, and for plant habit.

In the end, though, the American holly probably owed its salvation as a species to technological and cultural shifts rather than to the rescue efforts: the advent of cheap, mass-produced, reusable holiday decorations probably led to a drop in demand for fresh, wild-cut holly, but not before many of the best clones were lost forever. We should be grateful for the many beautiful selections that were made during this period. By maintaining these cultivars in the Arboretum and elsewhere, we can help preserve the genetic potential of this wonderful species for future American landscapes, when the American holly finds itself in the limelight once more.

STEFAN LURA is a botanist in the Arboretum's Plant Records office.



#### ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO WORKED TO PRESERVE THE AMERICAN HOLLY WAS ELIZABETH WHITE OF WHITESBOG, NEW JERSEY.

Although her association with *llex* opaca may not be well known to average Americans, she (along with Frederick Coville, first acting Director of the U.S. National Arboretum) is credited with the domestication of the highbush blueberry. Incidentally, she is also indirectly responsible for the first USNA plant introduction to have been bred and selected entirely at the Arboretum itself, Clethra alnifolia, 'Pinkspire'; one of its parents was a pink-flowered selection called 'Darlington' that she discovered near her home in the Jersey Pine Barrens and provided to us. The fact that this 1952 Oliver Freeman-bred release is actually an Arboretum introduction was nearly forgotten until recently, and even Michael Dirr in his Manual of Woody Landscape Plants (1998) erroneously stated that 'Pinkspire' (calling it 'Pink Spires') was selected by a "Dutch nurseryman." Although it was considered to be a significant improvement over existing varieties for its unfading pink flower color and is still grown to a very limited extent today, most gardeners will be far more familiar with its deeply-colored sport 'Ruby Spice'. This latter cultivar was discovered on 'Pinkspire', was introduced by Richard Jaynes in Rhode Island, and is by far the most strongly pink-flowered Clethra. Although the Arboretum lost its plants of Clethra alnifolia 'Pinkspire' many years ago, we still have a very good collection of Elizabeth White's American holly selections. Maybe one of them will hold the key to some future breeding breakthrough, too.

## WASHINGTON YOUTH GARDEN

## 2017: WYG's Year in Numbers

#### AS WE SAY GOODBYE TO 2017 AND

WELCOME 2018, we want to send one last shout-out to our volunteers, community partners, supporters, and youth who made the past year at Washington Youth Garden so abundant with fresh food, ah-ha moments, and laughter. We are continually awed by the power of nature to awaken our spirits and make learning about science and nutrition relatable, tactile, and most importantly, fun!

In 2018, we will engage 7,000 children and youth in hands-on garden activities

that will connect them with the land, food, and each another. We plan to do more on the grounds of the Arboretum to bring nature-based experiences to youth and families in DC. Here are a few of our goals for 2018:

- Facilitate field trips in the youth garden, forests, and streams at the Arboretum for more than 4,000 local youth,
- Partner with 8 DC schools to support school gardens and offer a new summer teacher training program, and
- Create a Youth Advisory Council to

more effectively include youth voices in our decision-making process.

Gardens are beautiful places, especially when they are filled with the smiling faces of children and youth eager to experience the bounty of the outdoors. Thanks for all your support, and we look forward to seeing you this spring!

NADIA MERCER is the program director for Washington Youth Garden and believes that all kids should grow up exploring the natural world.



## Winter Garden Tips

Nancy and Pierre Moitrier

#### THE COMBINATION OF DRY SOILS THIS FALL AND

consecutive days of below-freezing temperatures at the start of the new year will present challenges for many plants in the mid-Atlantic region. Follow these tips to cope with the powers of Old Man Winter.

- Don't be too quick to pronounce your damaged plants dead. Many evergreen plants may defoliate with winter extremes but still survive and push out new foliage in the spring. A small scratch to the plant stem with a clipper will help to determine a plant's viability; green beneath the protective bark indicates the plant is still alive. Plants that commonly defoliate in harsh winters include *Aucuba japonica, Gardenia jasminoides, Ilex* 'Nellie R. Stevens', *Nandina domestica, Prunus laurocerasus,* and *Viburnum awabuki*.
- Tuck dislodged rootballs back into the earth. The temperature variations that occur with rapid freezing and thawing may cause fall-planted perennials and small woody plants to heave out of the earth. Roots exposed to air will quickly desiccate and die. Apply a thick layer of mulch, avoiding the plant's crown, to minimize the effects of extreme temperature variations.
- Start planning for spring planting. The vagaries of winter may cause voids in the garden that provide an opportunity to introduce some of the new and wonderful plants you've been lusting after. The choices are plentiful!

#### GARDEN MAINTENANCE IS A YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITY:

- Are there plants in your garden that have been staked or tied up to create an interesting effect? Check your tie systems for stranglers...loosen ties if they are cutting into stems or WILL cut into stems with the onset of spring growth (relating to water uptake and stem expansion).
- Engage a reputable arboricultural company to evaluate and prune large trees. When trees are devoid of leaves, you can easily see where pruning is needed, and access for removal of pruning debris is clear while perennials are dormant.
- Seize the opportunity to repair fences and gates and to make other necessary improvements in hardscape elements while plants are dormant and demand less of your attention.
- Top-dress gravel paths. Repair stones or bricks that may have shifted during winter's freeze-thaw cycles.
- One year seedin' seven years weedin'! Be on the lookout for these seasonal weeds and remove them before they go to seed: Hairy Bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*), Henbit (*Lamium amplexicaule*), and Chickweed (*Stellaria media*). As dandelion flowers appear, dig and remove their long tap root before blossoms turn to seeds.
- Continue to spray organic deer repellents regularly.
- Feed the birds and provide a source of water that does not freeze.



NANCY AND PIERRE MOITRIER operate Designs for Greener Gardens, a boutique gardening company that specializes in designing, creating, developing, and maintaining distinctive gardens of all styles. Pierre hails from France and brings the charm of the Old World to their garden creations. Nancy's 40 years of gardening experience combined with her design knowledge and innate artistic eye add a superior dimension to their garden projects. Follow Designs for Greener Gardens on Facebook.



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Gwinneth Clarkson Sarah Coburn Sonia and Robert Conly Peter and Susan Connolly Elizabeth Kyle Courtney Winfield Crigler and Timothy Harr Laurie Cullen Martha Van Dale Stephen and Maygene Daniels Fred and Melanie Dann Marion DeGroff Andrew DePrete Nancy Desmond and Robert S. Linden Michael Dineen Robert Drechsler Ray and Marie Dube Martha Dupont Marian Durkin **Iill Eckart** Barry and Rosemary Eigen Seth and Marion Eisen Marian Elsasser Elizabeth Engle and Peter Dingman Robert and Bridget Faden Aurelius and Janet Fernandez Sophie and David Frederickson Linda French Carol Frost The Garden Club of Alexandria The Garden Club of Montclair Ron Geagley Viola Gienger Jamison and Aelita Girard David and Gloria Gogol William and Linda Goldman Brenda Goodrick and Peter Meed Constance Graham Elizabeth Grenfell Milton Grossman Susan Gutchess and Helen Ingalls Nicola Hain

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This list reflects gifts dated through 12/31/2017. We apologize for any error. Please contact Claire Broderick to correct our records: cbroderick@fona.org or 202.544.8733.

#### **TRIBUTE GIFTS FOR 2017**

In honor of Susan Akman Joseph Akman

In honor of Nancy Bryson and Barbara Shea Corbin C. Harwood

*In honor of Robert Darling* The Garden Club of Fairfax

In honor of Spinner and Linda Findlay Stephen Wuori

In honor of Ashley Hansen Jill Eckart

In honor of Kathy Horan Deborah Bowles Jeanne Connelly Liz Dugan Marsha Echols Sherry Houghton Andrew and Nancy Ireland Kevin and Marla McIntosh Mary Gene and Ted Myer Woodruff Price Barbara Shea Tuckie and Donald Westfall

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*In honor of Lyn Wenzel* Elisabeth Thompson

In memory of Patricia Belcher Harold Belcher

*In memory of Jane J. Bell* Victoria Melzer In memory of Sally Boasberg Potomac Valley Chapter, North American Rock Garden Society

In memory of Edward S. Cohen Fritzi Cohen

*In memory of Terry Dammann* John Dammann

In memory of Courtney Dunham-Rosmann Mark Rosmann Anne Ballard Benjamin Bennett Brianna Bond Susan Patrick

In memory of Arlene and Charles Gopen Gabe Gopen

*In memory of Debra Hughes* Azalea Society of America, Ben Morrison Chapter Harold Belcher

*In memory of Linda Mah* Sarlea Mah

In memory of Bob Speaker Amy Bishton

In memory of Bob Speaker and Betty Mosher Kim Rush Lynch

In memory of Don Voss Azalea Society of America, Northern Virginia Chapter





3501 New York Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20002-1958

The Friends of the National Arboretum is an independent, nonprofit organization established to enhance, through public and private sector resources, support for the U.S. National Arboretum.

## HAPPENINGS

#### For more information, visit usna.usda.gov or fona.org

#### LAHR SYMPOSIUM AND PLANT SALE

#### Saturday, March 24, 8:30am-3:30pm

Join the nation's top practitioners of landscape design, ecology, and resource management to learn how you can apply their approaches, insights, and techniques. Fee: \$95 (\$76 FONA members). Registration required. To register, visit www.usna.usda.gov/ Education/events.html

#### NATIVE PLANT SALE

#### Saturday, March 24, 8:00am-2:30pm

Sponsored by Friends of the National Arboretum

#### WORKSHOP: SEEING BEAUTY WHERE YOU ARE

#### Saturday, March 31, 1:30pm-3:30pm

#### Administration Building Auditorium

Learn how to clear away mental clutter, focus on the senses, and experience new ways of seeing. Tuan Pham will show his own photography and discuss how he brings mindfulness to his art. The class includes a visioning exercise in which participants will use techniques to find inspiration on the Arboretum grounds. This talk is ideal for artists, meditators, or anyone who would appreciate a deeper, more meaningful encounter with natural splendor. Fee: \$25 (\$22 FONA members). Registration required. To register, visit www.usna.usda. gov/Education/events.html

#### **EXHIBIT: IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL**

#### April 13–22, 10:00am–4:00pm

National Bonsai & Penjing Museum Exhibits Gallery Enjoy spring flowers with a Japanese twist. The Washington DC Chapter of Ikebana International will exhibit flower arrangements representing a variety of ikebana schools and styles. Free.



#### SAVE THE DATE:

- Sat. and Sun., April 28–29, FONA's Annual Garden Fair
- Wed., June 6,
  Dinner Under the Stars

#### CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS AT THE 2018 GARDEN FAIR

FONA is on the lookout for volunteers to help for shifts at the Garden Fair, April 28 and 29. We'll need help directing visitors, moving carts, and at checkout. No experience necessary. Please email volunteer@fona.org for more details.

Watch the **Arboretum Bald Eagles** through the Eagle Cam. See 24/7 streaming video of the nesting pair available at eagles.org/ dceaglecam

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