ARBORETUM PRESENTATIONS

Spring 2009

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Narcissus sp. on the Feldman Building slope

Henry Schmieder
ARBORETUM
of Delaware Valley College
Welcome to the 17th season of the Henry Schmieder Arboretum’s Presentations. This Spring 2009 series includes outstanding lectures. Join us!

The Henry Schmieder Arboretum’s success is owed in part to the diligent work of our Arboretum Partners. The Partners are volunteers who assist the Director, Horticulturist and student crew in making the campus of Delaware Valley College a beautiful place to leisurely stroll or seriously study.

Become a Henry Schmieder Arboretum member and receive discounts on all activities.

Founders Lectures

The Founders Lectures are FREE to Schmieder Arboretum members and current Delaware Valley College students. Nonmembers are invited to attend at a cost of $5 for each lecture. No registration is necessary for the Founders Lectures.

This season’s Founders Lectures will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in Room 114 Mandell Building (Smart Classroom).

Hardy Groundcovers

Dan Benarcik • Wednesday, February 11, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

This presentation is an introduction to the use of groundcovers in our garden designs as well as the landscape that surrounds our daily lives. Woody and herbaceous plants known for their ability to colonize in specific sites or to perform a specific aesthetic task in the garden will be highlighted.

Dan Benarcik is a Horticulturist at Chanticleer, an innovative garden, in Wayne, PA. He oversees the Courtyard Gardens, concentrating on tropical, subtropical, and tender perennials for seasonal display. Previous work experience included a position as a customer sales representative for Imperial Nurseries, a large east coast-based re-wholesaler of landscape plants, and a position as a woodpath gardener at the Mount Cuba Center, specializing in plants native to the eastern piedmont. Dan received a B.S. in Plant Science from the University of Delaware in 1986. He is currently an on-air personality on QVC for Cottage Farms Nursery and is an instructor at Longwood Gardens, where he teaches the Groundcovers course as part of the Continuing Education Department. He lectures frequently locally and nationally. Dan has authored articles which have appeared in Fine Gardening, Horticulture, Martha Stewart Living, and Rodale’s gardening books.
Downward Mobility: The Democratization of Rhododendrons and How They Became a Plant for All People

Harold E. Sweetman • Wednesday, March 11, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

You, too, can have rhododendrons in your garden. Historically, exotic travel and plant exploration were for the wealthiest and most elite collectors. Rhododendrons from around the world grew only in large scale estates. In recent decades, hybridizers have created many varieties that work well in smaller landscapes. No matter what the economic conditions are, everyone can grow rhododendrons!

Harold Sweetman has been Executive Director of the Jenkins Arboretum in Devon, PA for the past 23 years. Jenkins Arboretum specializes in the genus Rhododendron. The Arboretum’s naturalistic landscape design, showcasing native plants, is an ideal setting for an extensive plant collection of species and hybrid rhododendrons. Harold also has a faculty appointment at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and maintains a poisonous plant collection for student field study. He received the ARS bronze medal in 1995 and, in 2002, the Environmental Awareness Award and Conservation Medal from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Harold chairs the Research Committee of the American Rhododendron Society Research Foundation. He earned a Ph.D. degree in Biology from Boston University.

Reconciling Ornamental Plant Choices for the Cultivated Landscape: Breeding Breakthroughs, Solid Garden Standards, and Plants with Untapped Potential

Robert E. Lyons • Wednesday, April 1, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Each year the number of new plants arriving in the marketplace outpaces that of the previous year. This presentation attempts to sift through the plethora of choices to expose “rising stars,” highlight historic performers, and discuss the yet to be heralded.
Robert Lyons serves as Professor of Landscape Horticulture, the Program Director for the Longwood Graduate Program in Public Horticulture, and Director of the Center for Public Horticulture at the University of Delaware. He has taught herbaceous plant materials courses at Virginia Tech, NC State University, and now at the University of Delaware. Bob became the first Director of the Virginia Tech Horticulture Gardens (now the Hahn Horticulture Garden) and, prior to that, was Director of the JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State where he remained through 2004. Bob has received several prestigious awards: the University Wine Award for undergraduate teaching at Virginia Tech, the Chadwick Award from the American Nursery and Landscape Association, and the Outstanding Educator Award from the American Society for Horticultural Science. In 2008, Bob was named a Fellow in the American Society for Horticultural Science as well as the Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota, where he received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. His B.S. degree was earned from Rutgers University.

Longwood Gardens: Five Seasons with a Lifetime of Inspiration!

Karl Gercens • Wednesday, April 29, 2009
7:30 p.m. • Mandell 114

Most of our gardens experience only four seasons, but at Longwood Gardens there is an extra season of extravagant horticulture. Join Karl Gercens, Conservatory Horticulturist, as he takes us “behind the scenes” of Longwood's world renowned displays!

Karl has been Conservatory Horticulturist at Longwood Gardens for the past ten years and is responsible for curating the changing displays in Longwood’s vast conservatory complex. He has visited the best public gardens in all 50 states and lectures nationwide, including the Northwest Flower Show in Seattle, the Southern Flower Show in Atlanta, and the Philadelphia Flower Show. Originally from Mississippi, with a B.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Mississippi State University, Karl has worked at Walt Disney World in Florida and the Feldi estate in California.

Planning a Wedding?
The Henry Schmieder Arboretum’s gardens can provide a beautiful background for your photos.
For details, call Barbara Muse at 215-489-2287.

Visit us on the web at
www.delval.edu/arboretum
Members Plant Swap

Wednesday, May 13, 2009
5 – 7 p.m. • OH Greenhouse

Always a favorite, this is the opportunity for members to exchange their favorite or most unusual perennials, trees, shrubs or groundcovers with those of other gardeners. Even if you come to the swap plant-less, you’ll get a chance to go home with some new plants! This is a juried event, so please remember that weedy, rampant-growing, or invasive species will not be accepted, but the more unusual or choice plants that you bring, the more opportunities you gain to select plants!

For details on group Arboretum tours, call Barbara Muse at 215-489-2287.

Join Us as a Member of the Henry Schmiede Arboretum

Benefits: • Spring & Fall Gold Leaves Membership Newsletters
• Free admission to all Founders Lectures & Special Events
• 2 guest passes for Founders Lectures

THE HENRY SCHMIEDE ARBORETUM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Name on Membership: ____________________________

Address: ______________________________________

City: __________________ State: ______ Zip Code: ______

Telephone: ________, E-mail: ___________________

Credit Card Information: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number ___________________________ Expiration Date ________

Authorized Signature ___________________________

Mail to: THE HENRY SCHMIEDE ARBORETUM OF DELAWARE VALLEY COLLEGE

700 East Butler Avenue • Doylestown, PA 18901
215-489-2283 • Fax: 215-489-2404 • E-mail: arboretum@delval.edu