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NATIVE PLANTS: YES YOU CAN!

28TH ANNUAL LAHR SYMPOSIUM



SATURDAY
MARCH 29TH 2014

— presented by the —

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
3501 NEW YORK AVE. N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

Yes you can make your garden more ecologically beneficial, sustainable, and beautiful with the thought-provoking and practical information presented at this year's symposium.



28th ANNUAL LAHR SYMPOSIUM NATIVE PLANTS: YES YOU CAN!

Yes you can make your garden more beautiful, as well as more ecologically beneficial and sustainable with the thought-provoking and practical information presented at this year's symposium. Everyone, home gardeners and established professionals alike, will learn something new at the 28th Annual Lahr Symposium.

Speakers

Kelly Billing's love of gardening and over 25 years of experience as manager of Maryland Aquatic Nurseries has resulted in an encyclopedic knowledge of aquatic plants and ponds. She uses this understanding to create beautiful and tranquil sites including wildlife habitats and delightful children's spaces. She also lectures and writes, and has recently co-authored *Water Gardeners Bible* and *The Lotus, Know It and Grow It*. Kelly also compiled and maintains the Aquatic Plant Invasive Species List to help the nursery trade monitor and manage invasives.

Award-winning landscape architect **Sheila Brady** is a recognized leader and innovator in the field of sustainable design for public, private, corporate, and residential clients. A recipient of a Residential Design Award of Honor for Sustainability from the American Society of Landscape Architects, Ms. Brady is a principal of the renowned firm Oehme van Sweden Landscape Architecture, where for 25 years she has contributed to their most distinguished designs, including the World War II and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorials in Washington, DC. Her recent design work includes the compelling new Native Plant Garden at the New York Botanical Garden.

Dr. James Ethridge has been working in horticulture for over 40 years, from farming in Germany, Botswana, and Asia, to teaching college, to his current position as a plant propagator at Mt. Cuba Center, a Delaware botanical garden and research center with a focus on native plants of the piedmont region. As department chair of the horticulture program at Joliet Junior College he taught courses in applied horticulture, and supervised the greenhouse and landscape lab operations. His extensive knowledge includes propagation of some of the more unusual and difficult native plants.

Joan Feely is the Curator and Horticulturist in charge of the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection and the Dogwood Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum, where she has worked since 1986. She is the originator and coordinator of the Lahr Symposium, which annually places the spotlight on the topic of native plants in horticulture, landscape design, and nature. One of her current projects is collecting and providing wild collected seed for garden and restoration projects at the Arboretum.

Judith Jones, aka "The Fern Madame", established the Fancy Fronds Nursery over 35 years ago in response to the demand for more unusual, as well as difficult to find, Northwest native ferns. Her interests and contacts grew rapidly and soon she was producing one of the most comprehensive selections of temperate ferns in the country. From Victorian fern cultivars, to new-to-horticulture and undervalued ferns, Judith has grown, tested, evaluated, and passed onto commercial growers the ferns that are now the standards for the nursery trade.

A master electrician and educator, **Jeff Stevens** is passionate about raising public awareness of renewable energy opportunities, from commercial applications to home gardens. His knack for breaking down technical information into easily understood lessons enables him to connect with a wide range of students, from teens to professionals. An Assistant Professor at Alfred State College in NY State, he teaches classes in renewable energy systems. Jeff and his students have installed 3 photovoltaic solar-powered systems on the Arboretum grounds, one of which powers an irrigation system for a remote 2-acre research field.

LAHR SYMPOSIUM
U.S. National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002-1958

Official Business

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Schedule of Presentations

8:30 Registration and Early-bird Plant Sale

9:30 Welcome and Introduction

Joan Feely, U.S. National Arboretum

Yes You Can...

9:40 Plant more Ferns

Ferns are ancient, 345 million years old, and they are tough, apparently tougher than dinosaurs. As owner of the premier fern nursery in the United States, **Judith Jones**' knowledge of these plants spans from their pre-historic beginnings to current nursery production practices. See beautiful examples of how you can enhance your landscape using ferns to create evocative woodland gardens. Her extensive expertise will give you the inspiration and confidence to choose, plant, and care for just the right ferns for your site. She will also share how she came to suffer from Pteridomania, a Victorian affliction also known as "Fern Madness".

10:45 Refreshment Break

11:00 Morning Concurrent Sessions:

Choose one from A – D from the list at right

12:00 Lunch and Plant Sale

1:15 Afternoon Concurrent Sessions:

Choose one from E – H from the list at right

Yes You Can...

2:20 Design with the Essence of Native Habitats

Sheila Brady tells the story behind her design of the newly opened 3.5 acre Native Plant Garden at the New York Botanic Garden. Designed as a series of microclimates, the garden includes memorable spaces that highlight the beauty, diversity, and cultural significance of native plants. In a compelling departure from the usual habitat-based model that has shaped many gardens, this design distills the visual essence of the region's native landscapes without trying to replicate them. Learn about the diversity of the plants chosen, the selection and enhancement of patterns from nature, and how the resultant design engages and inspires visitors to learn more about native plants and natural ecosystems.

3:30 Adjourn

Add Renewable Energy to your Garden

Morning: A Afternoon: E

Using renewable energy in the landscape sounds appealing, but how do you know where to start? **Jeff Stevens** breaks down energy systems information into manageable elements, showing applications for homeowners and professionals who want to use alternative energy when adding lighting, water features, irrigation, or heating to landscapes and greenhouses. With a focus on solar systems, learn how to generate energy or improve energy efficiency for garden features, and take home ideas that will get you started on your project.

Create a Vibrant Aquatic Planting

Morning: B Afternoon: F

Whether you are simply curious about aquatic gardening or have already established a pond, **Kelly Billing** can show you just how essential native plants are to thriving aquatic systems, large and small. By learning some basics, you can create healthy aquatic habitats from low-maintenance patio containers to plant-filtered swimming pools. Discover new techniques to keep your plants happier and healthier with less care, and learn which native plant combinations help keep water clean and clear by removing surplus nutrients.

Propagate more Challenging Wildflowers

Morning: C Afternoon: G

Jim Ethridge will help you expand your plant propagation skills to include the formerly daunting challenges of such spring ephemerals as trillium, spring beauty, and trout-lily, as well as some summer favorites including liatris and lily. All these wildflowers produce some sort of underground stems, either true bulbs, bulbils, bulblets, corms, cormels, cormils, or rhizomes. Understand the botanic concepts of how these plants grow and multiply and then learn the necessary techniques to propagate them successfully.

Tour the Early Bloomers in the Fern Valley

Native Plant Collection

Morning: D Afternoon: H

Join Curator **Joan Feely** on this tour of Fern Valley for a mix of sightings of the earliest wildflowers and the newest developments in the collection. Among the early blooming plants, spicebush, spring beauty, trillium, toothwort and more could be showing their colors. Enjoy the sights and sounds of spring while you learn about future plans for this native plant sanctuary, and see how new plantings are introduced to this mid-century garden.

Highlights

- ◆ Nationally recognized speakers
- ◆ Early bird admission to the Native Plant Sale – shop before it opens to the public and take advantage of our "plant sitting" service.
- ◆ New and used garden book sale
- ◆ Early spring display in the gardens and collections
- ◆ New format this year lets you choose two concurrent sessions instead of one.

Friends of the National Arboretum

Native Plant Sale

Opens to Lahr registrants at 8:30 am.

Opens to the public at 9:30 am.

Closes at 2:00 pm.

Many vendors accept cash and checks only.

***Plant Sale* proceeds support the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection**

Driving Directions

The National Arboretum is easily accessible from Routes 295, 495, and 50. For complete driving directions from all surrounding areas, please see our website at www.usna.usda.

There are two gates, one on New York Avenue (Route 50 East) and one at 24TH and R Street NE, off of Bladensburg Rd. We strongly recommend using the R Street gate. For GPS, enter "24th and R Street NE".

Public Transportation

The closest Metrorail stop is Stadium Armory Station on the Blue and Orange lines. Transfer to the B2 Metrobus; disembark the bus on Bladensburg Road at Rand Street, just past the Arboretum sign on the right. Walk back to the sign at R Street and walk down R Street 2 blocks to the Arboretum entrance.

Parking

Free parking is just inside the R Street gate. If this lot fills, look for signs to direct you to additional parking. The symposium is located in the Administration Building.

Registration Form

Registration fee: \$89 (\$71 FONA members)
Registration includes lunch.

Two ways to register:

- 1) Register online with credit card or check at www.usna.usda.gov or:
- 2) Send this form and check payable to the:
US National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002
Attn: Event Registration

NAME

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

- Please select **2 concurrent sessions**: one for the morning and one for the afternoon:

Morning:

- A. Renewable Energy in the Garden**
- B. Aquatic Plantings**
- C. Propagation**
- D. Fern Valley Tour**

Afternoon:

- E. Renewable Energy in the Garden**
- F. Aquatic Plantings**
- G. Propagation**
- H. Fern Valley Tour**

Two types of lunch are offered. Please check your preference:

- Omnivorous lunch**
- Vegetarian lunch**

All registrations will be confirmed by mail or e-mail.

Sorry, no refunds will be given for cancellations received after March 19, 2014.

For more information please call 202-245-4521.