North Haven Gardens



Every Blooming Thing March - April 2016



Rose Weekend A 65-Year Tradition

March 5th & 6th 2016

While the procedures of Rose Weekend have changed over the decades, our appreciation for roses as hard-working landscape shrubs has remained constant. Before the mid-1970s, when shifts in the industry re-centered commercial rose growing in California, rose weekend actually began in October. In those days, growers in Tyler would wait until October to cut back their field-grown shrubs, typically a two-to three-year crop. Ralph Pinkus, NHG's founder, along with NHG's rosarian, would travel to Tyler to collect the blossoms to have on display in the store as a living example from which customers could choose. Orders were placed, the bare-root canes were brought in, and the shrubs were grown out here in Dallas in 'cans' (which in those early years were actual



Ira Duncan, NHG's original Rosarian, stands with a collection of roses grown in nursery cans in what is now our front parking lot (circa 1956).

recycled food cans). Customers returned in March to pick up their shrubs, which were then ready to plant out in the garden.

While we no longer gather blossoms in the field for fall selection, the tradition of growing our collection of bare-root roses here at NHG remains strong. While our guests are selecting trees and holiday greenery after Thanksgiving, the first of the roses begin arriving for potting, continuing into January. Rose Weekend is now a fixture of the first full weekend in March each year, and serves as a happy reminder that spring is about to arrive. 'Princess Alexandra of Kent' (Ausmerchant) Rose. Image courtesy of David Austin® Roses.

Give Local Pollinators a Boost!

MUMMUM

By Sandi Schwedler, TCNP, Senior Buyer

As part of our effort to help gardeners support native pollinators, we've sourced organically-grown milkweed from local independent growers for 2016. Plants are scheduled to begin arriving in mid- to late-April (depending on weather and temperatures through early spring). Excited? We are too, and we're hoping for a fantastic crop to offer NHG patrons. NHG is broadening our pollinator support effort by developing a Monarch Waystation in our front landscape. The goal of 'Create, Conserve and Protect Monarch Habitats' is achieved by planting annual and perennial milkweed as 'host' plants, and a variety of other 'nectar' plants for monarchs and other butterflies, as well as bees.

Did you know that there are many other plants that provide food for native pollinators? There are plenty of tough, native perennials that begin blooming early and continue throughout most of the warmer season. Salvias-of many species and varietiesare wonderful for their color variations, and their tubular flowers are perfect for hummingbirds (but bees and butterflies love them, too). Coneflowers are another great choice; whether the classic purple (Echinacea purpurea) or one of the more recent hybrids, they offer nectar, pollen and seeds for wildlife. Keep in mind that not all plants are available all the time, but we're committed to providing a large assortment of annuals and perennials-for sun and for shade-that have the best chance of success in our local area.

What's more beautiful than seeing your garden full of bees, butterflies and hummingbirds? Visit NHG this spring and help us support our native pollinators.

Promise of Peace

NHG is helping to support The Promise of Peace **Community Gardens** through the sale of **Bentley Seeds.** For each seed package we purchase from Bentley, they donate a packet to the Promise of Peace Gardens.

Clockwise from top left: Echinacea purpurea 'PowWow Wild Berry,' monarch on Mexican milkweed (Aesclepias curassavica) and Salvia farinacea 'Henry Duelberg' with Autumn Sage (S. greggii).



Elizabeth Dry, Founder of P.O.P. Photo by Rasy Ran

Visit NHG.com for event details

Urban Chicken Inc. Chicken Conference!

April 9, 10am-2pm

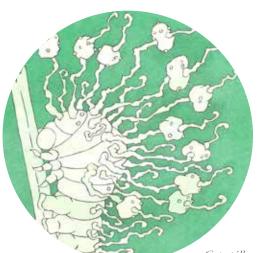
Flock to NHG to learn all about backyard chickens. If you've ever wondered how you can raise happy hens in your backyard, now is your chance to learn from local chicken enthusiasts. Join us for any of the workshops that will be held throughout this FREE event.



Spring Break Painting Workshop Friday, March 18

9:30am-12pm

Just for kids! Learn to paint your own Matisse-inspired classic in this fun workshop with guest artist Melanie M. Brannan designed for beginning painters 8-15 years old. \$55. Register at nhg.com. Look for our painting workshop for adults in May.



Caterpillar by Nomadic Fungi Institute

Gallery Reception

March 18, 5-7pm April 22, 5-7pm

Featuring work by Nomadic Fungi Institute & Karen Vanderpool-Haerle.

Herb Weekend April 23-24

Celebrate versatile garden flavors with specials, classes, tastings & more! Visit nhg.com for details.

Bonsai Society of Dallas Annual Exhibition Saturday, March 12, 9am-5pm & Sunday March 13, 10-4pm

A showcase of bonsai specimens from private collections. Free and open to the public.



7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230 214-363-5316 www.nhg.com



Luna Moth by Karen Vanderpool-Haerle **Galley Receptions** March 18, 5-7pm April 22, 5-7pm Free, casual & open to all.

Thai Hybrid Caladiums

All of us at NHG are plant people at heart, so when we first saw Thai caladiums-with their brilliant leaf colors and starkly contrasting veins-we knew we had to find some. As it turns out, the pure Thai caladiums are a bit fussy and slow, so they're not well-suited for commercial propagation. Undaunted, we went on the search at the Tropical Plant Industry Expo in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida this past January, and we were excited to find a supplier with a secret stash of special Thai hybrids. At TPIE, we saw Thai hybrids 'Desert Sunset,' 'Flatter Me,' and 'Freckles,' along with a couple others. Their richly colored foliage showed off the same contrasting veins that made their parents so unique, and after learning how well these hybrids were performing in cultivation, we secured a quantity to offer this spring. As Robert D. Hartman, Ph.D., President of Classic Caladiums, LLC and the hybridizer puts it:

"Caladium 'Desert Sunset' PP 25,421 is a lance leaf variety with a completely unique color pattern for caladiums. 'Desert Sunset' is derived from breeding between domestic caladium varieties and varieties from Thailand. Leaves are salmon pink with copper colored veins. It has a compact, full habit and therefore is useful in all pot sizes. In combination patio planters or the landscape 'Desert Sunset' is useful as a border or intermediate plant and will tolerate full sun. It grows fast and will develop a full plant in 6-7 weeks."

Tubers for several Thai hybrid caladiums will land in March at NHG along with our annual collection of caladiums, and they're sure to sell out quickly. Get in soon to grab some and bring a touch of Thai beauty to your garden this year.



Leaf detail of 'Desert Sunset' at TPIE by NHG General Manager Cody Hoya.