

# GROUND'S COVER

Volunteer Newsletter

August/September 2009

The mission of the Chicago Botanic Garden is to promote the enjoyment, understanding and conservation of plants and the natural world.

**Sophia Siskel**  
**President and CEO**  
**cordially invites staff and volunteers**  
**to celebrate the opening of the**  
**Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice**  
**Plant Conservation Science Center**  
**Tuesday, September 15**  
**Open House**  
**8:30 to 10:30 am**

This is your invitation. Please join us in celebrating the opening of the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center.

The new, sustainably designed Plant Science Center will serve as headquarters to the Garden's extensive efforts in plant conservation, and as home to a unique master's and doctoral program in plant biology and conservation in conjunction with Northwestern University.

Trams will run continually from the Visitor Center to the Plant Science Center from 8:15 to 10:30 am.

*\* In an effort to conserve resources, you will not receive a mailed invitation. Please mark this date on your calendar. We hope to see you there!*



## Construction Update

September is a special month at the Garden, a time when there will be two notable events, the opening and dedication of the Rice Plant Conservation Science Center and the first enrollment of students in the PhD program being undertaken in cooperation with Northwestern University.

**Bill Brown**, Vice President, Facilities and Planning, reports that construction on the Science Center, the landscaping and installation of its rooftop garden have continued on schedule.

Its dedication and the welcoming of the first PhD students will both take place near the end of September. "The new building is completely unique in its purpose," **Bill** explains. "It specializes in areas of botanical science connected with plant conservation. Only a few botanic gardens in the world have laboratory buildings. We are focused on plant conservation, starting with the banking of seeds that can be stored for hundreds of years when dried and put into freezers here."

Notable among the building's interior features is the atrium that will allow visitors to come into the building and be able to see into the laboratories to gain an understanding of the work being done there. In front of each laboratory is a 14-foot long bench with interpretive panel, three-dimensional objects and large touch screen. "The scientists will have microphones, head set arrangements, so that they can interact with people on the public side of the atrium on a scheduled basis. They can place something under a microscope and be able to show it on the large screen out in the hall. There will be opportunity for rather complex interaction giving the scientist a teaching function."

A significant Science Center dedication event will take place the evening of September 21 when the highlight will be having Michael Pollan as a speaker. He is a noted author who has written prize-winning books and was awarded the first Reuters-World Conservation Union Global Award for Excellence in Environmental Journalism. A symposia and book signing will take place the afternoon of Monday, September 21 from 2 to 3 pm and will be held at Ravinia. The fee is \$40 and pre-registration is required. For more information visit the website at

[www.chicagobotanic.org/school/symposia/pollan.php](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/school/symposia/pollan.php).

**Bill** stresses the significance of the Science Center saying that "the building's architecture and the way it welcomes visitors is part of the Garden's initiative to raise awareness about the urgency of the care of plant life on

*Construction Update, continued on page 3...*

# CAN YOU HELP?

Sign up or call Judy Cashen (847) 835-6800 or Lametha Lewis (847) 835-6803

E-mail [jcashen@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:jcashen@chicagobotanic.org) or [llewis@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:llewis@chicagobotanic.org)

We'll try to match your interests and availability for assignments



## Kite Festival Weekend

Saturday & Sunday, August 8 - 9

Evening Island

10:30 am - 1 pm & 12:30 - 4 pm

Kite Making Workshops

10:30 am - 2 pm

Greet, direct and assist visitors with kite making workshops; training provided by a workshop instructor.



## Malott Japanese Garden

Summer Festival

Saturday & Sunday, August 15 - 16

10 am - 3 pm

Assist with hands-on activities and crafts, programming focused on Japanese culture.

Must enjoy working outside and with children.



## Family Programs

Fruit & Vegetable Garden

Japanese Garden

11 am - 4 pm

Weekends, thru mid-October

Work on fun drop-in programs for families. Ability to work outside and desire to interact with children & adults of all ages required.



## Little Diggers

Select Weekday Mornings

September through April

8:30 am - 12 pm

Assist with hands-on nature exploration activities in classes for children and caregivers. Must enjoy working with young children (age 2-4) and be able to stand for duration of shift.



## National Tallgrass

Prairie Seed Bank

Tuesdays & Fridays

8 am - 3 pm

Help clean and package seeds of native species. Training provided and flexible volunteer shift time available.



## Roadside Flower Sale Workshops

Regenstein Center

Bumstein Hall

Tuesday - Thursday, September 1 - 3

9:30 - 11:30 am & 1 - 3 pm

Friday, September 4

9:30 - 11:30 am

Free flower arranging workshops taught by floral design experts. Call (847) 835-8392 to register; class size is limited.

## Roadside Flower Sale

Moving Materials Day

Monday, August 31

7 - 11 am

Bundle, wrap, and box materials for transport to Bumstein Hall; assist with setup.

## Roadside Flower Sale

Regenstein Center

Bumstein Hall

Friday - Sunday, September 11 - 13

9:30 am - 1 pm & 1 - 4:30 pm

Welcome and direct visitors, assist on cashier line or with deliveries to patrons' cars.



## Label Bags for 2009 Bulb Bazaar

Thursday & Friday,

September 17 - 18

9:30 am - 12 pm & 12:30 - 4 pm

Maintenance Garage

## Package Bulbs for

2009 Bulb Bazaar

Thursday & Friday

September 24 - 25

Monday - Wednesday

September 28 - October 2

9 am - 1 pm & 12:30 - 4 pm

Maintenance Garage



## 2009 Bulb Bazaar

Regenstein Center

Friday, October 2

9:30 am - 1:30 pm & 1:30 - 5:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday, October 3 - 4

9:30 am - 1:30 pm & 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Assist with sales, welcome and direct visitors, help as a totaller, cashier, or with purchase delivery.



## Harvest Festival

Saturday & Sunday

October 3 - 4

10:30 am - 1:30 pm & 1 - 4 pm

Assist children navigating the straw bale maze, distribute schedules, and work with participating vendors.



## Center for Teaching and Learning School Programs

September 2009 through June 2010

Make a difference by teaching the next generation! Morning opportunities currently available. Contribute as an in-class facilitator. Must enjoy interacting with children. Classroom training provided.



## Scout Programs

September 2009 through May 2010

Monday - Friday

3 - 6 pm

Opportunities available to facilitate Boy/Girl Scout programs. Help teach area youth about nature by exploring various topics and gardens. Topics range from ecology to art inspired by nature.



## Garden Horticulture Help

Weekdays, 9 am - 12 pm

Assistance needed at the Visitor Center, Evening Island, Waterfall, Japanese Garden and the Prairie.

Able to work outside, bending, lifting. Must have a love of plants and of the outdoors.



## Horticulture Assistance

Special Projects

Assist horticulture staff throughout the Garden with special projects. Some bending and lifting; volunteers should dress for the weather. Contact Volunteer Services for project days and shifts.

...*Construction Update, continued from page 1*

earth. We created the message 'Save the Plants. Save the Planet'. It is a very important topic and a fundamental aspect to our lives. We hope that if people spend time in the atrium and learn about plant conservation, they will come away with a transformation of consciousness about the place of plants in our lives. Each interpretive panel has a call to action that they can take home."

*Jane Lord*

### **Don't Miss these Hot Summer Events**

Be sure to mark your calendars for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual **Kite Festival** on August 8 & 9, 11 am to 4 pm, which will be held in the open area near Evening Island. Enjoy soaring stunt kite performances by members of the Chicago Fire Kite Team and members of the Kite Society of Wisconsin & Illinois, set to music. Walk or take the free tram to the festival. Ice cream, beverages and lunch items will be available for purchase on the West Meadow. Participants may bring and fly their own kites in the designated "Kite Festival" area between performances. Kids (big and little) can also make their own paper kites at workshops over the weekend from 11 am to 2 pm. Kites will be available for purchase at the Gift of Wings booth. The Kite Festival is brought to you by the Chicago Botanic Garden, the Kite Society of Wisconsin and Illinois, and Gift of Wings.

Visitors can learn all about growing and using peppers — both hot and sweet — at the **All About Peppers** Weekend, August 22 & 23, from 11am to 4 pm in the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Pepper tours will be conducted by a horticulturist each day at 1 and 3 pm. Visitors can shop for pepper products from select vendors. Special chili pepper décor is also part of the fun. See the many varieties of peppers growing throughout the garden, learn pepper facts and history, and stuff yourself with pepper-growing and cooking tips. At the Pepper Discovery carts, visitors can trace the history of peppers as they traveled the world, learn about the parts of the pepper and the varieties that can be grown in local gardens, sample pepper flavors by sprinkling ground peppers on popcorn, and receive pepper resource sheets with seed sources and recommendations. At free family drop-in activities, visitors can make a pepper butter mix, hunt for peppers in the garden and create artwork using peppers. The Kitchen Amphitheater will offer demonstrations on both days, at 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm.

The **Elizabeth Hubert Malott Japanese Garden Summer Festival**, Saturday & Sunday, August 15 & 16, 10 am – 3 pm, is another excellent volunteer opportunity to assist visitors in learning about the Japanese summer festivals (matsuri). During this special weekend of activities in the McGinley Pavilion, visitors can listen to musical performances including koto music by the Chicago Koto Group and taiko drumming by Kokyo Taiko, enjoy traditional folktales told by storyteller Anne Shimojima and

watch a tea ceremony demonstration. Hands-on activities, such as raking miniature dry gardens, trying chopsticks, and practicing calligraphy will be available. Kids of all ages can make projects to celebrate summer—create a paper fan, make a kite, and more—at family-friendly craft stations. Don't forget to visit the Bonsai Show and stop by the Japanese Garden for a self-guided tour with an activity card available in the Shoin House, in the Japanese Garden or at McGinley Pavilion.

Additionally, Family Sundays in the Elizabeth Hubert Malott Japanese Garden are planned for August 2, September 6 & 20, and October 4, 11 am to 4 pm. These will include hands-on activities related to Japanese arts and culture. Free activities vary each date and are subject to change.

Volunteers are needed for these events to welcome and direct visitors into the garden, to distribute programs, give tours and provide assistance as needed. Interested? Stop by or call the Volunteer Services Office at (847) 835-8392 for more information and to sign up.



### **Roadside Flower Sale Friday - Sunday, September 11-13 Regenstein Center Burnstein Hall 10 am - 4:30 pm**

This year's 29<sup>th</sup> annual Roadside Flower Sale will be held in early September. The Roadside Flower Sale volunteers offer free workshops where you can learn proper techniques of dried-flower arranging. Learn a new art form and let your creativity shine through!

Floral design instructors will lead these workshops on Tuesday, September 1 through Friday, September 4. There will be two sessions on Tuesday through Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30 am and 1 to 3 pm and one morning session on Friday. Workshops will be held in the Regenstein Center Burnstein Hall. Participants are encouraged to bring pruners. Some tools will be available for sharing also. Other supplies including dried materials and containers will be provided. Register for the workshops in advance by calling (847) 835-8392. Class size is limited. All items created in the workshops become the property of the Chicago Botanic Garden and the Roadside Flower Sale held Friday, September 11 through Sunday, September 13.

Discover a bounty of fall bouquets, potpourri, wreaths, pressed-flower note-cards, floral montages, and one-of-a-kind table arrangements, artfully created for the home. These dried floral designs are perfect to beautify home décor or as gifts. A raffle will be held at the sale offering

four special arrangements as prizes. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each or \$5 for six. Proceeds from the sale and the raffle benefit Chicago Botanic Garden projects.



## **Eeek! The Scary Season Is Coming to the Chicago Botanic Garden**

Witches, ghosts and goblins will be found throughout the Chicago Botanic Garden at the end of October.

The scary season starts off with family-friendly **HallowFest, a Garden of Good...and Evil** from October 23 through 25. Event hours are 6 to 8:30 pm on Friday and Saturday, along with new 3 to 5:30 pm event hours on Sunday designed especially for families with younger children. Tickets are \$14 for children and adults and go on sale to members September 9 and to the public on September 24. Guests will have a choice of taking a spooky path or a friendly path to activities in the Regenstein Center and McGinley Pavilion. HallowFest activities include bingo, a potting project, fortune-telling, pumpkin-decorating, and craft projects. Entertainment stages in Alsdorf Auditorium and Nichols Hall will host Fred the Vampire, Circus Boy, and Dave Rudolf performances. This is one of the Garden's biggest annual events and volunteers are needed to help with pre-event projects, serve snacks and assist the performers.

Volunteer event orientation will be held on Thursday, October 15 at 3 pm in the Regenstein Center Fairchild Room.

Coming down the track next is **Trains, Tricks, and Treats**, the end-of-season celebration for the Model Railroad Garden on October 24 and 25 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. Visitors will be encouraged to come in costume to have fun in a garden decorated with spiders and webs, ghosts, goblins, and pumpkins, as well as seasonal plant materials. Volunteers are needed to help with a planting activity and to staff the trick-or-treat stations.

Last, but not least, just leashed (!) is the **Spooky Pooch Parade** on October 31 from 1 to 3 pm, a brief volunteer orientation will be held prior to your shift. Formerly called the Reindog Parade and held in December, the parade has been moved to the end of October in hopes that weather conditions will be kinder for canine participants. Visitors are invited to bring their dogs in Halloween costume to parade in the Garden on this one day a year. Registration fees are \$14 in advance and \$19 at the door. Celebrity judges will be on hand to judge and award prizes for categories such as Best Puppy Costume and Best Look-a-Like to their owner. Non-profit organizations and vendors will be on hand to share information and sell dog-related products. The parade event needs volunteers to greet and direct participants, and assist judges and vendors.

As always, it takes many volunteers to help make this all happen, so contact Volunteer Services at (847) 835-8392 or stop by the Volunteer Services Office to sign up. And remember, October weather can be tricky too, so dress appropriately.

*Barbara Sirovatka*

## **Making Mum Magic**



Each fall visitors to the Garden are amazed to see plants they didn't know existed: hanging chrysanthemums. Mums are generally upright plants with brittle stems prone to breakage at the slightest provocation. Turning them into graceful cascades of bloom as much as four feet long is the work of the "mum magicians," three dedicated Production Greenhouse volunteers: **Ann Roome**, who has been working in production as a volunteer for over 25 years now, **Ann Taylor**, who has worked on the cascade mums for about 11 years and **George Meravi** who joined in on the magic as a new member of the team last year. Actually, spells and incantations play no part in the transformation. Making mum magic is a matter of time, skill, and patience. This team, under the supervision of Outdoor Floriculturist **Tim Pollak**, puts in 12 to 15 hours every week from April to September. The process begins in late February, when cuttings are taken from stock plants maintained in the greenhouse. By mid-April the young plants are transplanted into 12" pots, and the stems are secured onto wire trellises. The trellises train the stems to grow first horizontally and then, as they elongate, downward. Throughout the summer months, the growing tips are weighed down with metal nuts suspended from loops of string. The tiny "weights" must be moved continually—and with great care—as the stems grow, and are not removed until the stems have reached the desired length. To maintain a neat and compact habit the plants are pinched and trimmed weekly through late July. In addition, spray applications of plant growth regulators are applied to help keep the plants in control and compact. By the 3rd week of July, the plants are forced into bloom by reducing the amount of light they receive, thus mimicking the shorter days or long nights of autumn,

...*Making Mum Magic, continued from page 4*  
 when mums flower naturally. It usually takes about 6-7 weeks of forcing for the first flower color to appear. Day-length control is achieved in the greenhouse with automatic black cloth “curtains” that are closed at 4 pm each afternoon from late July until the plants develop pea-sized buds. By mid-September they are ready to bloom and go on display at the Japanese Islands. This fall ‘Megumi,’ a yellow, anemone-flowered mum, and the daisy-like yellow-and-white ‘Gum Drop’ mum will be seen at the Japanese Islands, cascading onto the paths from the stone retaining walls. Another anemone-flowered cultivar, ‘Pink Fleece,’ will provide a splash of color in the English Walled Garden, and ‘Vernal Falls’ mums in shades of bronzy orange will be spilling from huge containers along the wall of the Lakeside Garden.

*Linda Tomchuck*



*Photos Courtesy of Tim Pollak*

### **What's Buzzin' in the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden?**

The buzz in the Regenstein Fruit and Vegetable Garden (FVG) is more than just conversation. On the subject of bees and their importance in our world, the FVG's educational bee display has informed and delighted visitors for years. In April of this year, the Garden placed two new beehives on a southeast facing hillside at the southern end of the Fruit and Vegetable Garden. Visitors to the FVG's Nut Grove can view the two white beehives at the top of the hill, both bustling with activity as their occupants leave and return in their never-ending quest for nectar and pollen. These two new hives are the first of four proposed hives to be located in the FVG. **Ann Stevens**, volunteer beekeeper in the FVG, described the circumstances that led her to the Garden. She became interested in bees while volunteering at City Farm in Chicago. Following courses on beekeeping, Ann became a member of the Cook County Beekeeping Association, where she joined many like-minded people, all of whom share concern over the worldwide phenomenon known as Colony Collapse Disorder

(CCD). CCD is the acronym referring to the disappearance of bee colonies due to mite infestation. The U.S. has experienced a 47% loss in bee population from 1980 through 2007. Although CCD has not been observed in Illinois yet, (Illinois is 28<sup>th</sup> nationally in honey production) vigilance is necessary in this critical area. For instance, a major decline in the number of honeybees could decimate pumpkin crops since honeybees are the prime source of pollination for pumpkins.

**Ann** was contacted by **Rick Belding**, FVG Horticulturist, who was planning on installing two beehives to address what was considered a “bee deficit” in the Garden. The FVG had beehives years ago, and the FVG's educational/informational display has been in place for some time. However, with a national decline in bee populations, the return of functional onsite hives was determined to be an important and necessary step to ensure sufficient pollination of the FVG's fruits and vegetables. The Garden's bees are Italian honeybees, which are considered the standard for beekeeping. They consist, as do all hive bees, of three types. Thousands of worker bees are infertile females, whose six-week life consists of building honeycombs in the hive and searching for and collecting nectar and pollen. They also keep the queen warm, “bundling” or surrounding her during the winter and rotating their own positions to maintain hive temperature. The colony's sole queen lives only to reproduce, producing some 1,500 eggs per day over her three to five year life. When a new queen hatches, she kills the old queen, maintaining the stability of the hive. There are hundreds of drones in the colony, stinger-less males serving only to mate with the queen before being driven out of the hive before winter. Overpopulation in a colony eventually leads to “swarming,” where the queen and many thousands of bees leave the hive to find a new home, resulting in the hatching of a new queen and population stability.

The importance of honeybees cannot be overemphasized. These amazing creatures with their tireless industry and social instincts, such as banding together and dividing labor, are a major factor in the U.S. economy. In addition to producing over \$100 million worth of honey and beeswax per year in the U.S., honeybees function as pollinators of agricultural crops, adding about \$10 billion annually to the economy. A multitude of flowering plants, of which there are some 240,000 varieties in North America, require pollination by bees, birds, bats, small animals or insects. The loss of honeybees would have major repercussions in this country, starting with food production and subsequent availability, resulting in significant price increases. The FVG's beehives are a welcome addition to the Garden, and yet another step in the Garden's continuing emphasis on ecological awareness and action

*Don Gayle*

## Who's Who in the Garden?

A profile of someone you should know



### **Sam Darin 2008 Volunteer of the Year**

As a man with outstanding abilities who shares them graciously with others at the Garden, **Sam Darin** well deserves being honored as “Volunteer of the Year.”

Regarded as a real “people” person, **Sam** has always loved learning and is well-regarded for teaching the Garden’s visitors, students, staff and volunteers in classes, events and exhibits.

Since becoming a volunteer in 1996, **Sam** has shared his expertise as a professional tool and die designer and created a course to teach visitors how to sharpen tools. Previously he had designed tools in a machine shop and was owner of a hardware store and of sporting goods stores in Chicago and Glenview. Now he teaches visitors at the tool care exhibit in the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden. He has also volunteered in the Herbarium and assisted at many Garden events, including “All About Peppers,” the Bulb Bazaar, Antiques & Garden Fair and the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. When “A Bloomin’ Sale” is scheduled, **Sam’s** devoted fans visit him in the vegetable section to get his advice on the best vegetables for growing in their home gardens.

A monthly task that he assumes is to sharpen tools for the horticulture staff in the Plant Production area and the Regenstein Center Greenhouse prep room. Additionally, he sharpens tools for the Roadside Flower Sale’s volunteer team.

**Sam** has been a certified University of Illinois Master Gardener for ten years and was recognized as an outstanding Master Gardener after designing a tool-sharpening course for the Master Gardeners.

Congratulations, **Sam**, for being recognized for your important contributions as a dedicated Garden volunteer.

*Jane Lord*

### **The 2008 Barbara Whitney Carr Excellence in Leadership Award Presented to Bob and Charlene Shaw**



*Photo by Robin Carlson*

Sophia Siskel, President and CEO, (left) congratulates Bob and Charlene Shaw at the annual Volunteer Awards & Recognition Reception held on June 11. The award honors volunteers who have shown extraordinary leadership towards a new Garden project.

### **Super Senior Award Recipient Hope Lepley**



*Photo by Robin Carlson*

Super Senior Award recipient Hope Lepley was recognized by the North Shore Senior Center and the Chicago Botanic Garden for her volunteer contributions and as one of the North Shore’s most outstanding volunteers. Hope became a volunteer in 1998 and was the first Garden Greeter. She has given more than 1000 hours of extraordinary service. Thank you, Hope!

## Master Gardener Update

**Sam Darin's *Tool Sharpening Workshop*** previously scheduled for Monday, August 17 has been rescheduled to **Monday, August 24**. Nothing makes gardening harder than a dull tool! Join fellow Master Gardener **Sam Darin** and learn how simple it is to keep your tools in top condition and sharp enough for the toughest task. He will demonstrate the best techniques to sharpen a myriad of tools, including shovels, loppers, spades and pruners. Bring a pair of pruners or other small tool for a hands-on opportunity to practice these techniques on your own. **Sam** will also discuss proper methods of winter tool storage.

**Sam Darin**, Chicago Botanic Garden 2008 Volunteer of the Year and Master Gardener

Monday, August 24, 10 am – 12 pm

Annex 2 **MGT0042** Fee: \$10 (2 hrs)


To register for this class, please call the Registrar at (847) 835-8261.




### Chicago Botanic Garden Farmers' Market Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

The Chicago Botanic Garden Farmers' Market continues outdoors the first and third Sunday of the month, August 2 and 16, September 6 and 20 and October 4 and 18 from 9 am to 2 pm. There's still time to sign up for a fall/winter CSA share for the months of November and December – receive a box of organically grown, freshly picked produce grown at King's Hill Farm. The Chicago Botanic Garden and King's Hill Farm in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, have partnered to use the Chicago Botanic Garden as a pick-up location for the farm's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) vegetable shares. Visit [www.kingshillfarm.com](http://www.kingshillfarm.com) for more information or to sign up online.


### ***DID YOU KNOW...***


 The Roadside Flower Sale team welcomes donations of unusual baskets and containers. Materials donated will be used at the Roadside Flower Sale free flower arranging workshops, held Tuesday, September 1 through Friday, September 4. If you have a donation or would like to sign up for a workshop, please stop by the Volunteer Services office or call (847) 835-8392.

 The Chicago Botanic Garden would like to thank Abbott Laboratories, Allstate Insurance, Baxter, ComEd/Excelon, HSBC, Takeda Pharmaceutical, KemperSports/KemperLesnik, Whole Foods and

PricewaterhouseCoopers for their participation in Volunteer Project Days at the Garden. The groups assisted with various horticulture projects throughout the Garden and we look forward to their continued support.

 The Chicago Horticultural Society has named **Susan A. Willetts** Chairman of the Board of Directors. Susan succeeds **William J. Hagenah** who retired as Chairman in June. **Susan** will serve a three year term and has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2004, serving on the Executive, Nominating and Development Committees and co-chairing the Science Initiative Task Force. We would like to welcome **Susan** as we look forward to her mission to promote the initiatives of the new Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center.

 Please remember that Garden property, including books, plants, tools and all materials, may not be removed without permission from your supervisor or Volunteer Services. Plants may be discarded due to disease or pests.

 Poison ivy is the name commonly applied to several species of the cashew or sumac family of plants. These plants which are native to the temperate regions of North America, all produce urushiol within the resin ducts of their leaves, bark, flowers and fruits. Urushiol causes an allergic contact dermatitis of the skin resulting in an itching rash. The best prevention is avoidance. Days after contact with the resin, the affected area becomes red, swollen and itchy. The rash usually last one week, but can last up to three weeks. Immediately after contact, wash the area with soap and warm water, but don't irritate the skin. Let your supervisor know if you have come in contact with poison ivy while volunteering here.



*Photo by Robin Carlson*

Volunteer **Richard Baer** delighted the audience by reading one of his many poems, "Norbert Farthingale Revisted", at the Volunteer Awards & Recognition Reception held June 11. Thank you, Richard!

## Calendar of Garden Events and Volunteer Activities

August 2009		
Sat. & Sun.	8 & 9	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Kite Festival, 11 am - 4 pm, Evening Island. Materials fee applies.
Sun.	2 & 16	Farmers' Market, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 9 am – 2 pm, in front of the Visitor Center. Event will be held rain or shine. Admission is free; standard parking fees apply.
Wed.	12 & 26	Grapes & Hops: A Celebration of Wine & Beer, Wednesdays, 6 - 8 pm, Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Event will be held rain or shine. Members: \$8, non-members: \$10, Tickets can be purchased at the Visitor Center or through the website, visit <a href="http://www.chicagobotanic.org/grapeshops/member_tickets.php">www.chicagobotanic.org/grapeshops/member_tickets.php</a> .
Fri. – Sun.	14-16	Midwest Bonsai 32 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Show & Sale, 9 am to 5 pm., Regenstein Center Burnstein Hall. Demonstrations and lectures will be held. Workshops will also be offered throughout the weekend, additional fee and registration required. Visit <a href="http://www.midwestbonsai.org/">www.midwestbonsai.org/</a> for more information.
Sat. & Sun.	15 & 16	Elizabeth Hubert Malott Japanese Garden Summer Festival, 10 am - 4 pm, McGinley Pavilion.
Wed.	5 & 19	Dancin' Sprouts – Final performances 5:30 & 6:30 pm, Esplanade.
Sat. & Sun.	22 & 23	All About Peppers Weekend, 11 am - 4 pm, Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden.
Mon.	3, 10, 17, 24 & 31	Carillon Concert – Tour begins at 5:30 pm; concert begins at 7 pm. Evening Island.
Tues.	4, 11, 18, & 25	Music on the Esplanade – Concert at 6 - 8 pm. Esplanade.
September 2009		
Tues. – Fri.	1-4	Roadside Flower Sale Dried Flower Arranging Workshops, Tuesday through Thursday, 9:30 - 11:30 am and 1 - 3 pm, Friday, morning session only, 9:30-11:30 am, Regenstein Center Burnstein Hall. To register, call (847) 835-8392. Workshops are free. All arrangements become the property of the Chicago Botanic Garden and are donated to the sale.
Sun.	6 & 20	Farmers' Market, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 9 am – 2 pm, in front of the Visitor Center. Event will be held rain or shine. Admission is free; standard parking fees apply.
Fri. – Sun.	11-13	29 <sup>th</sup> Annual Roadside Flower Sale; 10 am - 4:30 pm, Regenstein Center, Burnstein Hall.
Tues.	15	<b>Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center staff and volunteer opening preview event, 8:30 to 10:30 am. Trams will run continually from the Visitor Center to the Plant Science Center from 8:15 to 10:30 am.</b>
Coming October 2009		
Fri. – Sun.	2-4	2009 Bulb Bazaar; Member preview Friday, 10 am – 12 pm; public sale, Friday, 12 – 5 pm and Saturday & Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm, Regenstein Center, Burnstein Hall.
Sat. & Sun.	3 & 4	Harvest Festival, 10 am - 4 pm, Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden. Chef demonstrations at 1:30 & 2:30 pm.
Sun.	4 & 18	Farmers' Market, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 9 am – 2 pm, in front of the Visitor Center. Event will be held rain or shine. Admission is free; standard parking fees apply.

☞ **The Grounds Cover Committee** ☞

Joan Brown, Judy Cashen, Don Gayle, Lametha Lewis,  
Jane Lord, Sandy Schwartz, Barbara Sirovatka, Linda Tomchuck

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