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## An Inside Look

EACH SUMMER I enjoy the opportunity to travel around the country, meeting gardeners and visiting a wide range of public and private gardens. Over the past few months, my schedule included stops at the Master Gardeners International symposium in Florida at the end of May and the Society's annual conference in Cleveland in June. I also attended the Ohio Florists Association Short Course in Columbus in July and then spoke at the Perennial Plant Association's annual conference in Crystal City, Virginia, in August.

Because of my years of attending these kinds of events, I often run into familiar faces, but I also meet many people who are relatively new to the gardening family. This summer, what impressed me most was the diversity of gardening styles and interests I encountered, as well as the number of people who are eager to expand their gardening horizons. The enthusiasm gardening inspires is truly amazing.

This issue of the magazine addresses the diversity of gardening interests with an array of articles that offer a little something for everyone. Our Associate Editor Carole Ottesen profiles 10 native trees that have colorful fall foliage and other ornamental attributes. Vegetable gardeners and cooks alike will enjoy Chris Blanchard's article on the simple joys of growing the gourmet relatives of the onion—leeks, shallots, chives, and others.

In anticipation of the Society's annual conference in Seattle next June, we offer Deborah Ferber's article about the garden of Maren and Arthur Kruckeberg, innovative gardeners who over the last 40 years have created a masterful tapestry of native and exotic woodland plants on four acres in the coastal Pacific Northwest.

Fall is the time to plant spring-flowering bulbs, but few gardeners take advantage of this time of year to enjoy those bulbs that flower in autumn. If you're one of these gardeners, Nancy Goodwin—who keeps bulbs blooming year round in her North Carolina garden—will introduce you to some of the best fall-blooming bulbs and suggest ways to integrate them into your landscape.

For those of us with busy daytime schedules, the evening hours are often the only time we get to relax in our gardens. Contributing Editor Rita Pelczar explains how rewarding it can be to have a garden designed for enjoying the cool fall evenings.

But fall is also a busy time in the garden, so if you have been caught up in the passion for planting exotic tropicals and subtropicals outdoors in summer, you will want to read Managing Editor and Designer Mary Yee's article on how to safely store these tender—and often expensive—plants over the winter.

We know our magazine helps you to grow as gardeners, but remember it is just one facet of our national gardening programming. We will continue to educate and inspire you through our newly redesigned Web site ([www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org)), our Great American Gardeners lecture series, our book series published by Dorling Kindersley, our Travel Study Program, and our toll-free Gardeners Information Service hotline.

Ever in green,



—H. Marc Cathey, *AHS President Emeritus*