



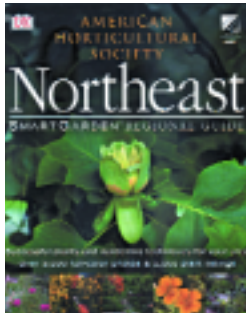
News

AHS Programs and Events

New Book Releases from DK Publishing

THIS FALL, DK Publishing, Inc. will release its newest series of AHS books, including an updated edition of the popular *AHS Encyclopedia of Gardening* and two of the much anticipated *SMARTGARDEN™ Regional Guides*.

AHS President Emeritus **Dr. H. Marc Cathey** developed the SMARTGARDEN™ concept to simplify gardening techniques and encourage gardeners to become better stewards of the land. Since then, this blueprint for gardening success has been introduced to American gardeners through an ongoing series of articles in *The American Gardener* as well as workshops and lectures presented by AHS horticulturists.



The core text for the new regional guides was written by **Rita Pelczar**, as-

sociate editor of *The American Gardener*; but each guide features a different regional coauthor. The Northeast and Northwest guides—by **Trevor Cole** and **Peter Punzi**, respectively—will be issued this year. The Southeast, by **Felder Rushing**, and Southwest, by **Pat Welsh**, will be issued in spring 2004.

Now tailored specifically to meet the needs of American gardeners, the revised edition of the *AHS Encyclopedia of Gardening* is better than ever. There will be updated plant nomenclature and the inclusion of hardiness zones based on the newly revised 2003 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone map as well as AHS heat zones.

Based on the past success of the *Encyclopedia of Gardening* and the popularity of the SMARTGARDEN™ articles in this magazine, these new books will become important additions to your gardening reference shelf. For more information about these books and other upcoming new releases from AHS and DK Publishing, stay tuned to *The American Gardener* and the AHS Web site (www.ahs.org).

2003 Children and Youth Garden Symposium at River Farm

THE RISING INTEREST in children's gardening programs over the last decade has led more and more schools and public gardens throughout the United States to develop attractions geared toward children and families. This summer, the AHS's 11th annual Children and Youth Garden Symposium will provide practical advice and strategies for anyone interested in developing a successful children's garden.

The 2003 symposium, to be held July 24 to 26, will focus on research and training for parents, teachers, and anyone else exploring the idea of teaching and learning in a garden setting in their school or community. River Farm, AHS's headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, will serve as the symposium's home base, hosting various workshops and events and showcasing the award-winning children's gardens on its historic grounds.

Attendees will also visit other innovative children's gardens in the Washington, D.C., area, including

those at Tuckahoe Elementary School and Green Spring Garden Park. At each location, workshops will focus on how to start up and maintain successful children's garden programs.

The symposium will also provide information on how to get involved with The Growing Connection, an exciting new AHS national educational program designed to teach middle school students the science of growing food plants from seed (see article on page 10).

At the conclusion of each day, mixers held in beautiful garden settings around the Washington, D.C., area will give attendees an inspirational forum to network and exchange ideas about children's gardening programs.

For more information about the 2003 Children and Youth Garden Symposium, contact **Mark Miller** at (800) 777-7931 ext. 117; e-mail: mmiller@ahs.org, or visit the AHS Web site (www.ahs.org) and click on "Youth Gardening."

—Pia daSilva, Editorial Intern



Hands-on gardening activities for kids will be among the topics at the AHS Youth Garden Symposium.

THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 11th ANNUAL CHILDREN & YOUTH GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

JULY 24-26, 2003



Join us at River Farm, AHS's headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, for terrific tours, wonderful workshops, exciting events, and noteworthy networking! Besides the award-winning children's gardens on River Farm's historic grounds, attendees will visit many innovative children's gardens in the Washington, D.C., area, including those at schools, public gardens, community gardens, and inner-city sites.

Participate in a focus group to explore the future of children's gardens and gardening, see practical examples of how to integrate curriculum into an outdoor setting, learn how to garden with pre-schoolers, and find out more about the exciting new AHS children's gardening initiative—The Growing Connection. There are evening networking and social opportunities, including a twilight tour at Green Spring Garden Park, dinner on River Farm's beautiful grounds, and a reception at the newly renovated U.S. Botanic Garden.

To register or obtain more information about the symposium, contact Mark Miller at (800) 777-7931 ext. 117 or e-mail: mmiller@ahs.org. Or visit www.ahs.org and click on "Youth Gardening" and "National Youth Garden Symposium."

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Join Dr. Allan Armitage —Poet and Plantsman— and the Muses of the Garden —Art, Poetry and Science— at the AHS Annual Gala and Auction

Saturday, September 20
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Benefiting the American Horticultural Society
at George Washington's River Farm
Alexandria, Virginia

\$200 per person

Call (703) 768-5700 ext. 110 for reservations

Five Books Earn 2003 AHS Awards

FIVE GARDENING books published in 2002 have earned the American Horticultural Society's Annual Book Award. The winning books, profiled below, are *The American Woodland Garden* by Rick Darke, *An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials* by W. George Schmid, *Grounds for Pleasure: Four Centuries of the American Garden*, by Denise Otis, *Melons for the Passionate Grower* by Amy Goldman, and *Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines* by William Cullina.

The award winners were selected by the AHS Book Award Committee. Marco Polo Stufano, former director of horticulture at Wave Hill in New York City, chaired this year's committee, which included Linda Askey of Birmingham, Alabama, formerly senior writer for *Southern Living* magazine; Dick Dunmire of Los Altos, California, a former editor of the *Sunset Western Garden Book*; Laurie Hannah, a horticultural librarian at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden; Rommy Lopat of Richmond, Illinois, former editor of *The Weedpatch Gazette*; Lucinda Mays of Chadron, Nebraska, a garden writer and former host of PBS's "The Victory Garden"; and Ray Rogers of North Brunswick, New Jersey, a freelance garden book editor.

AHS annual award-winning books can be distinguished by a gold seal on the cover embossed with the Society's name. Look for these books in your local bookstore or order them through a link to Amazon.com on the AHS Web site (www.ahs.org).

The American Woodland Garden: Capturing the Spirit of the Deciduous Forest by Rick Darke. Timber Press, Portland, Oregon. Price, hardcover: \$49.95.

DARKE'S ARTICULATE chronicle of eastern woodlands and the lessons in design and ecology we can learn from them struck a chord among committee members. "I live in California now, but I grew up in Pennsylvania," said Dick Dunmire, "and this book is so good it almost made me want to move back."



"It's one of the best gardening books to come along in the last 20 years," said Ray Rogers. "The author's passion for his subject comes through both in his writing and his photography." Laurie Hannah said, "Even though its primary focus is on woodlands in the East and Midwest, anybody could apply the lessons and philosophy behind it."

An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials by W. George Schmid. Timber Press, Portland, Oregon. Price, hardcover: \$49.95.

SCHMID'S opinionated writing style and authoritative advice earned high marks. "I used the book as a reference in some design work," noted Lucinda Mays, "and in every case the information was sound and accurate."

Dick Dunmire said, "He does a marvelous



job of bringing you up to date with shade plants by covering a lot of the newer discoveries that have been made in Japan and China."

"The book contained the most thoughtful guide to differentiating degrees of shade that I've ever seen," said Linda Askey.

Grounds for Pleasure: Four Centuries of the American Garden by Denise Otis. Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York, New York. Price, hardcover: \$75.

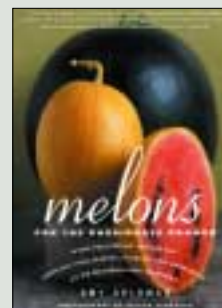
OTIS'S HISTORY of the evolution of the private American garden was praised for its audacious scope, readability, and photography. "The scope of the book is huge, but the thing that most impressed me about it is that her voice is consistent throughout," Lucinda Mays said. "To cover that much ground and not lose her narrative train is very impressive."

"The prose is so readable," said Linda Askey. "I found it an intellectually tickling presentation of gardening history."



Melons for the Passionate Grower by Amy Goldman. Artisan, New York, New York. Price, softcover: \$25.

GOLDMAN'S BOOK was praised for "mouthwatering" photography and for the author's ability to inspire interest in a under-appreciated plant group. "Victor Schrage's photography deserves special kudos," said Ray Rogers, "and the book covers everything you could possibly want to know about melons." Rommy Lopat said, "The photography is very entertaining, and the author did her homework and got around her subject matter."



Lucinda Mays shared the book with nongardening friends and said they got excited about trying to grow melons. "Any book that creates a call to action like that has made an impact," she said.

Native Trees, Shrubs & Vines by William Cullina. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Massachusetts. Price, hardcover: \$40.

"THERE ARE relatively few good books on how to grow and propagate natives," said Laurie Hannah. "This book really fills a gap."

"It is useful for exactly what its subtitle says—as a guide to using, growing, and propagating American woody plants," said Lucinda Mays.

"It's written by someone who really has done all this stuff," noted Marco Polo Stufano. "Cullina has been working with natives for years and it shows."

