

The American GARDENER

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NOTES FROM RIVER FARM

AS WE MOVE into 2008, I hope that you and yours had a wonderful holiday season and that all of those New Year's resolutions are holding firm, especially those relating to gardening.

In wrapping up some of the projects that kept us busy last year, I am delighted to report that the long-planned overlook in the André Bluemel Meadow at River Farm is now completed. This beautiful stone feature, which incorporates a council ring, is a wonderful addition to our headquarters, and I would like to express particular thanks to AHS President's Council member Pauline Vollmer, whose generous gift made the overlook possible. You can read more about the project in the "News from AHS" section of this issue.

Also in the news section you will find a complete calendar of AHS events for the year, with events going on throughout the nation, from Seattle and San Francisco to Denver, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., as well as online educational programs that can be accessed by members no matter where they live. There are far too many for me to cover them all, so I will just hit a few highlights.

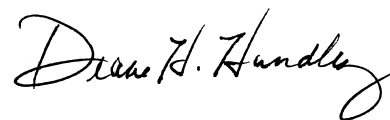
Our very popular Garden School will feature two sessions this year: the first on April 10 and 11 at nearby Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens is "Trees of the American Landscape," and the second, hosted by Denver Botanic Gardens on June 19 and 20, is "Gardening with Native Plants."

And based on the positive feedback we received about the new webinars that debuted last year, we are scheduling four of these live, online educational programs this year. Speakers include William Cullina of the New England Wild Flower Society in March and plantsman extraordinaire Dan Hinkley in May.

One of our flagship educational programs, the annual National Children & Youth Garden Symposium, will be held in the Philadelphia area from July 24 to 26. The AHS's Education Department has created another great program that will include sessions and presentations from some of the top experts in the children's garden field, as well as visits to many of the stellar gardens in this region.

In this issue of our magazine, you will find the annual *AHS Member Guide*, which lists the Flower Shows and Reciprocal Admissions Program (RAP) gardens that offer members discounts or other benefits in 2008. Be sure to keep this booklet handy, because it also includes brief descriptions of all of our programs and other member benefits that are available to you. One change to this year's *Member Guide* is that it does not include the Annual Seed Exchange list, which you will find on our website. If you don't have access to the Internet, you can request that the seed list be mailed to you.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our loyal and dedicated members for your support throughout 2007. None of the events and programs that take place here at our headquarters and across the nation would be possible without you. We are deeply appreciative for your continued benevolence and look forward to seeing many of you during 2008.



—Deane H. Hundley, President & CEO



KASSIE BAKER