



THE CASTLE CHRONICLES



International Garden Tour, 2014 Edition; Rome and Tuscany!



If you haven't heard of our wildly popular annual garden tours, you must live under a rock! These annual excursions have become our most popular offerings of the year. Join us this year as we embark on eight days in some of the best gardens in Rome and the surrounding Tuscan countryside. From the Vatican Gardens to the streets of Florence, this is a trip you won't want to miss.

As with all our international garden tours, we take a small group (20 max.) making the trip manageable, flexible and personal. Our guide has more than 35 years of experience in managing international garden tours, speaks the local language – and lived in Italy for more than 10 years! And of course, our resident plant expert - Yew Dell director Dr. Paul Cappiello - provides detailed commentary on the plants and gardens. Whether your interest is history, garden design, unusual plants or simply a delightful travel adventure, this is the trip for you!

For information and trip details, check the program section of the Yew Dell website or call the office at 502.241.4788. These slots will fill up very quickly so call today to reserve your spot.

2017

It's Hellebore Season at Yew Dell!

The weather outside is frightful but the hellebores are so delightful! There is no doubt how or why hellebores are also known as the Lenten-rose. Their lovely winter blooms adorn the winter garden beginning in early December and continuing through April. The double and single flowers range in color from pure white to almost black and everywhere in between. While some plants hold their flowers conspicuously upright, others offer more subtle presentations with their blooms nodding gently towards the earth – sublime in either pose.

If you enjoy surprises, buy a hellebore with the words 'strain' or 'mix' in the name. This means it was propagated from seed and while all the plants in that mix or strain may tend towards one color there will be a great deal of variability within the plants - in color, and even possibly form. You won't know exactly what you are getting until it blooms! If, on the other hand, you prefer to know what to expect and like to plan your garden according to specific color schemes, purchase a clonally produced cultivar such as Helleborus 'Walhelivor' Ivory Prince. Ivory Prince will be true to its advertised color with little to no variation in flower form or color. If you buy Ivory Prince you know you are getting a creamy white upright flowering hellebore. *Continued on page 3...*



Helleborus 'Heronswood Double'

230

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

What a winter it's been . . . already!

All those nice Zone 7 and 8 winters lulled us hopeful gardeners into a sense that we were living in Atlanta minus the traffic. But our friend Mother Nature did what only mothers can get away with: provide a not-so-subtle reminder in the form of a whack in the back of the head! We do have winter after all.

Well we're ready for spring this year – in more ways than one. We'll be producing our first crop in the **new greenhouse** facility (look for the grand opening later this spring!) We've just come off a fabulous garden tour of southern California and are getting ready to head to **Rome and Tuscany** in June. And we have a fantastic slate of programs planned for the rest of 2014. Whether you want to grow your own microgreens (or want to find out what they are!), prune your favorite tree, design a new garden, get the kids out for some fun or just want a little inspiration to take home to your own garden – we have a program planned just for you.

Our new state-of-the-art greenhouse and nursery facilities will provide many new volunteer opportunities (hint hint!) and will allow us to grow even more plants. In fact, when you come to Yew Dell this summer you'll see a bit of what Garden Manager Ann Mattingly and Apprentice Evan Ware have been doing all winter long . . . planning, propagating, ordering and growing a very cool collection of succulents for our low-water container display. We guarantee you'll see something you like.

So as you drag yourself through what's left of winter, take some time to check out the program list, put a few on the calendar (along with the major event stickers included in this newsletter!) and come visit us throughout the season.

Happy Gardening

Paul Cappiello
Executive Director

312

JOIN US!

Yew Dell membership offers a wealth of benefits including admission all year long, discounts on Yew Dell classes, lectures and workshops, invitation to member-only events and early admission to the annual Plant Sale and Garden Market.

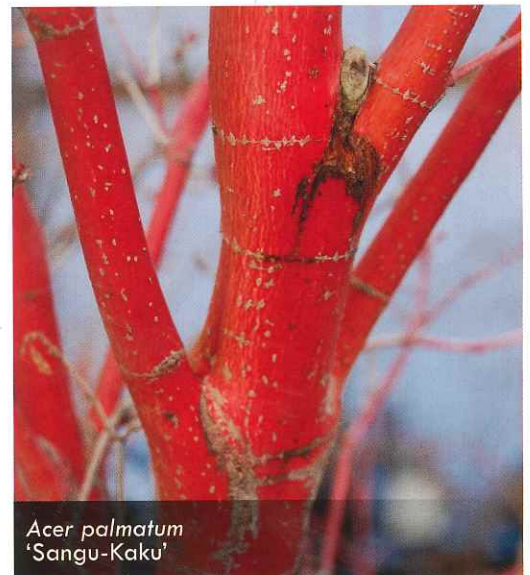
Members also receive discounts at area nurseries and garden centers and coupons and gift certificates for plants and garden supplies—membership pays for itself several times over! And

all of our \$150 and above members will receive a special plant dividend available only at our annual Plant Sale. For Silver Cloud and above memberships we're even offering guest passes for your friends and family members.

Help us Keep in Touch!

If you have recently changed your email address, mailing address or don't receive any email from us- please let us know! Contact Cheryl at CherylL@yewdellgardens.org or call 241-4788.

135



Acer palmatum
'Sangu-Kaku'

MEMBERSHIP FORM

LEVELS OF GIVING

- Virginia Bluebells **\$35 (single)**
- Silver Cloud **\$50-\$149 (family)**
- Weeping Katsura **\$150-\$499**
- Golden-Berried Holly **\$500-\$999**
- The Dell Society **\$1000 and above**

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VISA Mastercard Discover (CIRCLE ONE) Amount: \$ _____

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For a list of membership benefits and more information about events and programs, visit our website at www.yewdellgardens.org. Please return this form to:

Yew Dell Botanical Gardens
P.O. Box 1334
Crestwood, KY 40014



A Gardener's New Year's Resolution - Grow Microgreens!



Microgreens have to be about the easiest produce to grow yourself. Take seeds of some common garden vegetables, sprinkle them on a bed of potting mix, water a few times, and as Emeril would say . . . BAM! Your own homegrown, nutritious microgreen salad.

First off, microgreens are simply immature seedling sprouts of plants you likely grow in your vegetable garden - beets, mustard, chard, lettuce, basil and turnips are just a few. But rather than taking months and lots of space in the garden, these are harvested when they are just a couple of weeks old . . . and they can be grown in a small tray on a windowsill. No 'tilling the garden. No hauling compost. No dragging hoses around the garden. And no fighting the rabbits!

At harvest, the plants don't look like much more than stems with a couple of tiny leaves on them, but they're packed full of nutrients. Whether you are looking for vitamins, beta-carotene or any of a long list of beneficial nutrients, studies show that microgreens pack 4-6 times more of those magic little plant products compared to the same plant at mature leaf stage.

Growing microgreens is simple, quick, inexpensive and fun. All you need is a container with holes for drainage, seed starting mix, seeds, water and a warm or sunny spot. It's helpful if the container has a clear lid to keep the humidity up until the seeds have sprouted.

Simply moisten the seed starting mix with warm water and place it in the container about 2" deep. Sow the seeds on top and sprinkle a small layer of the seed starting mix on top of the seeds. Water lightly with warm water, place the clear lid on the container and put the container in a warm spot. The rate of germination depends on the type of seed you use. It's okay to peek, so check the container daily to see what changes have taken place. Water when the container feels light when you pick it up - and you will have your own crop of microgreens in less than 3 weeks.

Use your crop in salads, on sandwiches and as a lovely crowning touch to appetizers. You won't fill up on them, but they add so much color, flavor, and nutrition to your meal that you'll love them.

If you want a primer on growing microgreens, join us on Saturday, March 8 (see class info. on page 5) for a hands-on how-to class on growing and harvesting microgreens. You'll go home with a tray ready for harvest and one that you plant yourself.

4/26

Continued from page 1 ... Hellebores are the ultimate four season perennial. Of the different types available on the market, *Helleborus x hybridus* cultivars perform best in our Kentucky gardens. They prefer moist, loamy soil and shade or morning sun but are adaptable to various soil types and can tolerate a drier site. They are hardy and relatively disease free. The deer never munch on them! The foliage provides good year round interest and the flowers shine during a time of year when few others are blooming. And as an added bonus . . . the blooms floated on a bowl of water make a long lasting and beautiful display in the house.

Cutting the plants back in early winter before the new foliage and flowers emerge will keep plants looking good all year long. It will also save you time and a few grey hairs since it is much easier to cut back the foliage when you don't have to work around newly emerging flowers and foliage.

Winter and early spring is always a wonderful time to visit Yew Dell and get to know our Hellebore collection. We have nearly one hundred different types of hellebores adding up to more than five hundred hellebore plants. Touring the collection will help you

become familiar with the bloom times and duration of bloom, the diversity of colors, and the various forms hellebores have and how they can enhance your own garden.

Come see us during our annual Hellebore Day on Saturday, March 29th from 10am - noon. We will have

some of our favorite hellebore cultivars for sale - those that have performed best in Yew Dell's trials. We will also have new and exciting introductions from some of the leading hellebore hybridizers. If you just can't wait to get started you can visit our local nurseries and gardens centers. A few mail order companies also specialize in hellebores: Avant Gardens in Massachusetts, Bluestone Perennials in Ohio, and Fieldstone Gardens in Maine. Another great website to help locate sources for mail order plants is the University of Minnesota's Horticultural Library, (www.plantinfo.umn.edu). We hope to see you in the gardens soon, checking out our hellebores. And if you have questions on how to get started growing your own, we're here to help!



3/7/17

A New Year Brings New Volunteer Opportunities

Yew Dell's ever-expanding activity has added new facilities (greenhouse!), more programs and more plants. And all the expansion has added one more thing . . . more for our staff to do! What that means is more opportunities for you to support our work with your time and talent. Volunteering at Yew Dell is an excellent way to learn new skills, meet new people and help us advance our mission. The only requirement to volunteer is a desire to help. If you need to know something, we're happy to give you the required training. Why not resolve this year to get out and volunteer at Yew Dell?

Below is a list of some of our main volunteer opportunities, but if you have talents you don't see listed here, feel free to contact us. We have a knack for connecting willing volunteers with rewarding projects! Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Bonnie Heaton (bonnie@yewdellgardens.org) for more information.

Volunteer in the Gardens and Grounds:

- **Garden Volunteers** work with Yew Dell's knowledgeable horticulture staff to help plant and maintain display gardens, plant trials and seasonal plantings.
- **Vegetable Garden Volunteers** help develop, plant and maintain the display and evaluation vegetable plantings.
- **Plant/Garden Curators** work with the horticulture staff to track performance, track inventory and labels in the gardens and collections.
- **Second Saturday Volunteer Work Day** is a great way to become involved if you are not available for weekdays and enjoy working with a group to accomplish some big projects. Work days are held every second Saturday of every month March through November.
- **Trail Managers** walk Yew Dell's woodland trails to help identify maintenance needs and keep the trails in tip top shape

Volunteer Statistics for 2013

Total volunteer hours	4414
Individual volunteers	269
New Volunteers	61
Monetary value	\$97,726

Historical Data

Total 5 yr. volunteers since 2002	97
Total 10 yr. volunteers since 2002	28
Total volunteer hours since 2002	50,324
Total Value	\$7,149,853

424

Special Projects

Just ask . . . we have plenty!



42

Yew Dell's Cappiello Honored by The Garden Club of America

At its winter meeting in New York City, The Garden Club of America executive board voted to name Yew Dell Executive Director Dr. Paul Cappiello an honorary GCA member. He will be formally inducted at the GCA's annual conference in New Orleans this coming May. This honor makes Dr. Cappiello one of only 65 honorary GCA members across the U.S., a tremendous honor. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Cappiello.

70

Volunteer of the Year



At our annual Volunteer Celebration held February 15, we had the delightful opportunity to crown yet another Volunteer of the Year. Janice Morgan has been an active and standout volunteer since 2005. In that time she's been a member of the Second Saturday Workday clan, helped on events, programs and even worked weddings and in the Visitor Center. In fact, Janice has been such a great worker that we decided we just couldn't live without her. We just hired her as our newest staff member – Event Assistant! She'll be working with Communications Coordinator Jackie Gulbe to help coordinate rentals, events, classes and programs. Next time you see her on the grounds, help us congratulate her . . . and welcome her to her new post!

125

2014 Winter/Spring Programs

See the Yew Dell Website for Complete Descriptions and Program Updates

Once again we are including our handy, dandy event reminder stickers! So, before you forget – get your calendar out and get sticking! We look forward to seeing you and your friends in the garden this year!

Vegetable Gardening 101 – session 1 of a 3 part series

Instructor: Ann Mattingly,

Yew Dell Garden Manager

Saturday, February 15; 12:30 – 2pm

\$15/\$25 - Members/Non-members

In this first of three vegetable gardening workshops, you will learn how to create your own vegetable gardening calendar. Working back from the desired planting date we will determine indoor seed starting dates, transplant hardening off dates and dates to plan for the arrival of mail-ordered starts, slips or plants. This calendar will be a valuable tool in planning and producing a successful vegetable garden. No experience necessary.

Vegetable Gardening 101 – session 2 of a 3 part series

Instructor: Ann Mattingly,

Yew Dell Garden Manager

Saturday, February 22; 10:30 – noon

\$20/\$30 - Members/Non-members

Bring your own cool season seeds (cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, etc) to start for transplants. You will learn about germinating mixes, germinating rates, tips for successful germination and days to maturity. You will also understand how to care for your tender seedlings in the home environment: light, fertility, water, and temperature requirements. If you don't know where to start – don't worry, we will have some seed on hand to get you going.

Microgreens!

Saturday, March 8; Noon – 1:30pm

Instructor: Karla Drover, Yew Dell

Assistant Director & avid gardener

\$20/\$30 - Members/Non-members

Are you: Itching for spring? Wanting to plant something now? Limited on indoor growing space? Hungry to taste fresh grown veggies? Then microgreens might just be your ticket! Microgreens are easy to grow, take little space, and deliver 4 - 6 times more nutrients than mature leaf vegetables. Learn how to start, grow and harvest microgreens and go home with two trays - one ready for harvest and one that you plant during the class. Class size is limited, so sign up now.

Vegetable Gardening 101 – the final session of a 3 part series

Instructor: Ann Mattingly,

Yew Dell Garden Manager

Saturday, March 8; 12:30 – 2pm

\$20/\$30 - Members/Non-members

The last of three workshops on gardening basics will begin with potting up your cool season seedlings into larger containers that will keep them happy until transplanting time. This will be an opportunity to bring in your own seeds for your warm season (tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, etc.) crops to learn how and when to get them started. And finally, we will discuss how to harden off your seedlings so that you have the greatest chance for success during transplanting. If you don't know where to start – don't worry, we will have some seed on hand to get you going.

Time Change! Spring Forward

Time to leap into gardening action!

Sunday, March 9

Village Anchor Fundraiser

Sunday, March 23; 5-10pm

11507 Park Rd, Louisville, KY 40223
(502) 708-1850

Join Yew Dell staff, volunteers and board members for an evening of fabulous food and drink at the Village Anchor! If 100 guests or more mention Yew Dell, we will receive 10% of the proceeds from the sales that evening. Reservations are highly encouraged!

Hellebore Day – A Celebration and Sale!

Saturday, March 29; 10am - Noon

FREE with Regular Admission!

If there was ever a near-perfect perennial for Kentucky, the hellebore is it! Evergreen foliage, winter and spring flowering, good looking foliage all summer . . . what's not to love!? And Yew Dell just happens to have one of the best collections in the land. Come learn about culture, biology, new varieties and more. And we'll have plenty of great plants to buy as well so you can start (or augment!) your own collection. Come early . . . plants sell out quickly.

Pruning Trees & Shrubs Workshop

Instructor: Paul Cappiello,

Yew Dell Executive Director

Saturday, March 29; 1-3pm

\$15/\$25 - Members/Non-members

Grab your pruning shears and saw and join Yew Dell director Paul Cappiello for a lively workshop on the grounds. We'll cover pruning rules for trees, shrubs, when to prune and how. No experience needed

Plant Sale & Garden Market

Saturday, April 26; 10am-4pm

Members get in at 9!

Sunday, April 27; Noon-3pm

Regular Admission

Spring Plant Walk

Monday, May 5; 6-7:30pm

Guide: Paul Cappiello,

Yew Dell Executive Director

\$15/\$25 - Members/Non-members

Join Yew Dell director Paul Cappiello on this unscripted walk through the collections. We'll talk about everything in bloom, answer questions about the best varieties for our region and send you home with some new ideas for your own garden.

Children in the Dell

Saturday, May 10; 10:30-noon

FREE with the admission of parent or guardian.

Gardens, woods, trails and fields . . . these Saturday-morning classes are the perfect opportunity to give children a chance to spend some time with all that is green. Our energetic and creative educators will engage the children in everything from planting and growing veggies to nature-inspired scavenger hunts and a whole lot more. Whatever happens to be in season will be the topic du jour. Intended for children from 5-12 years old. Parents must stay on the grounds and are invited to participate in the day's activities. Preregistration encouraged – drop-ins welcome as space allows.

Every Saturday morning through September 27!

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11

Bring mom out for a walk in the garden!

~~1800~~
851

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HONORARY AND MEMORIAL DONATIONS

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In honor of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Rounsavall III, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hunt Rounsavall
Mr. and Mrs. John Clark IV

In honor of Mr. Bob Griffith
The Cultural Landscape Foundation

In honor of The Yew Dell Staff
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Rounsavall III

In honor of Eunice Blocker
Marion Woodall

In honor of Margie Schubert
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Chapman

In honor of Mary Rounsavall
Mr. Robert W. Rounsavall III,
Judith L. Smith, & Gayle Dorsey

In honor of The Yew Dell Board of Directors

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Cappiello

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Bob Ray
Mr. and Mrs. David Ray
Mr. and Mrs. P. Stephen Hughes
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Mr. Jon Borie
Mr. and Mrs. Jules Klein
Cyrus S. Radford, Jr. and
Margaret S. Cregor
Cave Hill Cemetary
Mr. and Mrs. Corwin Short

Gifts received between 10/22/2013 – 1/20/14.

We apologize for any errors or omissions in this list of gifts.



Purchase of a memorial/honorary bench has been and continues to be an excellent way to remember a loved one, mark a special occasion, or honor a valued friend. Contact a staff member for details.

Here's your last chance to put your name on Yew Dell's new greenhouse facility!

All greenhouse donations \$1000 and up will be acknowledged on the donor board to be displayed outside the greenhouse. What a great way to show your support for Yew Dell and our ongoing growth. Contact Yew Dell for more information.



\$269,900

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821-2223



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Yew Dell Botanical Gardens is a partnership project of the Garden Conservancy, a national, non-profit organization founded to help preserve America's exceptional gardens.

THE CASTLE CHRONICLES

Winter 2014



WINTER HOURS

Tuesday – Friday: 10-4pm
Closed Weekends until March 29
Monday: Closed

SPRING/SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: 10– 4pm
Thursday evenings until 8pm
Sunday: Noon-4pm
Monday: Closed

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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