

Bright Spots



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

A SELF GUIDED WALKING TOUR

March 22, 2017

Did you know...?

While everyone's attention is focused upward toward the cherry blossoms, there are some other fleeting beauties that might be missed. This is peak time in Virginia for native spring ephemerals, and as the name indicates, the blooms come and go so quickly even our Bright Spots team can miss them. Two weeks ago we spotted a cluster of *Sanguinaria canadensis* (Bloodroot) on the Woodland Walk. Both the common and the botanical name originate from the color of the plant's sap which is a bright reddish-orange. "Sanguinaria" derives from the Latin word *sanguis* for blood.

Bloodroot is native to eastern and central North America. Native Americans used tea made from the roots to treat fevers and lung ailments and arthritic pains. Modern research has confirmed antiseptic, anesthetic and anticancer activity

The lovely creamy white flowers with yellow stamens above a single palmate leaf formed a stunning cluster arising from the leafage on the woodland floor. Alas, these flowers only survive for 3 or 4 days, and this cluster has vanished. There is another that was just emerging on the first day of spring in the left side bed as you exit the door from the Visitor Center into the garden. They will have come and gone before the weekend. Why so fast? Native woodland flowers must bloom and set seed before the canopy above them leafs out, blocking the sunlight.

Sources:

A field guide to medicinal plants and herbs of eastern and central North America, S. Foster & J. A. Duke, [QK99 .F68 2000]; https://www.bbg.org/gardening/article/native_spring_ephemerals; <http://vnps.org/spring-ephemerals-catch-em-can/>;

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=m290>

***Notable Plants:** Several times a month, Garden Volunteers record the most dramatic seasonal displays and highlight exceptional plants in the garden and Conservatory.

+Denotes Virginia Native Plant

Plant Material	Location
Because of recent erratic and extreme weather, some plants may have experienced unseasonal growth and/or damage from cold night temperatures	
CENTRAL GARDEN and CONSERVATORY LOOP	
FOUNTAIN TERRACE	
Christmas Rose, <i>Helleborus x ericsmithii</i> 'Silvermoon' clusters of creamy white flowers above foliage of silver green leaves	Left rear bed, by glass doors
OUTSIDE THE GATES TURN LEFT, THEN TURN RIGHT TO ENTER	

GEORGE BRAGDON DAFFODIL GARDEN	
HUNDREDS OF DAFFODILS ARE EMERGING FROM THE GROUND, WATCH AS THEY CONTINUE TO GROW AND FLOWER	Throughout
Miniature Daffodil, <i>Narcissus</i> 'Toto', very pale lemon yellow petals with a deep cup	Outer perimeter bed
Double Cup Daffodil, <i>Narcissus</i> 'Taihiti', large bright yellow double flowers with deep orange ruffles	Outer perimeter bed
Large Cup Daffodil, <i>Narcissus</i> 'Ceylon' 2Y0, tall, bright yellow flowers with orange centers	Throughout
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Ivory Prince' (PBR), pale green flowers with deep rose striping	Left of entrance to Four Seasons
RETURN TO THE BRICK PATH, TURN RIGHT TO	
EAST and WEST TRIANGLE BEDS	
Viola, <i>Viola x wittrockiana</i> 'PAS702648' Panola™ XP White	Throughout
Viola, <i>Viola x wittrockiana</i> Panola™ Blackberry Sundae Mix	Throughout
Viola, <i>Viola x wittrockiana</i> 'PAS702632' Panola™ Deep Blue/Blotch	Throughout
Viola, <i>Viola x wittrockiana</i> 'PAS284643' Panola™ Lilac Shades	Throughout
CONTINUE UP THE STEPS	
CONSERVATORY	
Palm House	
Sago Palm, <i>Cycas revoluta</i> , lush stems radiating from center. This 32 year old plant was started from seed by a garden volunteer and recently donated to LGBG. Notice the emerging red seed.	Central spiral bed, second level, left of center
Clivia, <i>Clivia miniata</i> var. <i>citrina</i> , evergreen perennial with strap-like leaves and showy trumpet shaped lemon colored flowers	Center left in pots on floor
Clivia, <i>Clivia miniata</i> , clump forming perennial with strappy leaves and bright orange trumpet flowers, yellow/white centers	Center left in pots on floor
<i>Cymbidium</i> orchid, clusters of mustard yellow-green flower petals with burgundy speckled lip	Center left and right in pots on floor
<i>Ctenanthe burle-marxii</i> , foliage plant with glossy oval leaves, bold dark green fishbone pattern on light olive background. Leaves fold up at night to reveal purple undersides	Spiral bed beside ledge
Queen Sago Palm, <i>Cycas circinalis</i> , cone bearing evergreen, stiff leaves with stiff narrow leaflets and strongly recurved margins. This plant is not actually a palm tree.	Central spiral planter, right side
Corsage orchid, <i>Cattlianthe</i> Gold Digger 'Buttercup', orange-gold petals surround burgundy speckled lip	Right side on ledge of spiral planter in multiple pots
Bromeliad, <i>Aechmea blanchettiana</i> , tall colorful flower spikes of red and yellow above strappy sharp-edged leaves	Spiral planter & corner beds
Bromeliad, <i>Aechmea</i> 'Loie's Pride', tall salmon and yellow flower spike above elongated strappy leaves, green with yellow stripes	Rear side of spiral planter, in pot
<i>Cymbidium</i> orchids, notice large pots of mature clumps of orchids with long sprays of flowers	Rear side of spiral planter
Bromeliad, <i>Portea</i> 'Jungles', large rosette of stiff leaves, tall orange flower spikes	In large hanging baskets

Aechmea 'Burning Bush', rosette of stiff leaves, central stem with deep pink flowering spike	Corner beds in back
Coral Plant, <i>Russelia equisetiformis</i> , deciduous shrub with asparagus like foliage and bright red tubular flowers	Left side in pot before entrance to East wing
East Wing ENJOY THE VARIETIES AND COLORS OF ORCHIDS	
<i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> var. <i>hillei</i> , multiple stems of abundant small cream-colored flowers	Right of entry in pot on stone ledge
<i>Clerodendrum quadriloculare</i> 'Shooting Star', tall tree, large leaves, huge flower clusters like fireworks, pale pink buds just emerging	Rear of right bed
Lipstick Plant, <i>Aeschynanthus</i> , trailing plant with waxy glossy leaves and red tubular flowers each emerging from a dark maroon calyx.	Hanging basket
Wax Begonia 'Dragon Wings', bronze leaves, pale pink flowers	Hanging basket
Spleenwort, <i>Asplenium antiquum</i> , bright green, arching, elongated ruffled fronds, growing vigorously out of stone wall.	Right side
<i>Bougainvillea</i> x 'Monka', Oo-la-la®, magenta-red flower bracts on climbing branches	Far left corner and overhead
White Bird of Paradise, <i>Strelitzia nicolai</i> , large banana-like leaves are arranged in a fan-like position, large, crane-shaped, creamy white flowers	Left side beyond grotto, corner bed LOOK UP!
Spiral Ginger, <i>Costus comosus</i> , velvet strappy green leaver with cone shaped flower clusters of red and yellow	Left of path
West Wing ENJOY THE VARIETIES AND COLORS OF TULIPS	
Ellemeet's Agave, <i>Agave ellemeetiana</i> , huge specimen with gracefully curving leaves, from the cloud forests of Mexico near Oaxaca.	Left of entrance
Calamondin orange, x <i>Citrofortunella mitis</i> , abundant miniature orange fruit on small tree in pot	In pot, right side near the entrance
* Passion Flower , <i>Passiflora vitifolia</i> , bright red flowers adorn the lobed grape-looking leaves.	Left side on trellis over the bench
Foxtail Fern, <i>Asparagus densiflorus</i> 'Sprengeri', long tapering cones of fine needle-like leaflets give the plant a fluffy appearance, 2-3' tall	Large pot by the arch
* Oxalis triangularis 'Mijke', deep purple triangular-shaped foliage with delicate pink clusters of flowers	Throughout
*Meyer Lemon, <i>Citrus x meyeri</i> , small tree with yellow lemons and fragrant white flowers	In front of cottage
Anise-scented Sage, <i>Salvia guaranitica</i> 'Black and Bloom', spikes of deep blue/purple flowers on dark stems, leaves glossy above	Cottage garden
Mealycup Sage, <i>Salvia farinacea</i> , upright perennial with narrow spikes of blue/violet flowers on gray stems	Cottage garden
Eureka Pink Variegated Lemon, <i>Citrus x limon</i> 'Eureka Pink Variegated', small low-branching tree with extremely fragrant white flowers	In pot by corner of the cottage
<i>Tradescantia pallida</i> , dark green leaves tinted purple on trailing stems, small pink flowers with yellow centers.	In pots, both sides of path
Beaked Yucca, <i>Yucca rostrata</i> , large ball-shaped, long spiked leaves, pineapple appearance at the core	Right side just past the cottage

Red Headed Irishman, <i>Mammillaria spinosissima</i> , small deep pink flowers with yellow centers born on numerous low multi-lobed cactus	Right side just past the cottage
Pencil Cactus, <i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> , dense shrub with pencil-like green stems, ends of stems turning yellow at the top	Left corner bed-by the path
FROM CONSERVATORY, PROCEED AHEAD TO	
FOUNTAIN GARDEN	
TURN LEFT ALONG TRIANGLE BEDS FOUNTAIN GARDEN Upper Level	
AT INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT TOWARD EDUCATION CENTER , THEN LEFT TO ENTER	
MEDITATION GARDEN RIGHT OF PATH	
MEDICINAL GARDEN LEFT OF PATH	
CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD TO THE ARBOR	
<i>Epheion uniflorum</i> 'Wisley Blue', light blue star shaped-flowers over grassy foliage	Under the arbor, both sides
WALK STRAIGHT INTO	
FOUR SEASONS GARDEN	
Red Twig Dogwood, <i>Cornus alba</i> 'Elegantissima', small shrub with blood red stems	Right side, front bed
* <i>Yucca</i> , <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> 'Color Guard', low growing plant with brilliant, striped gold and green sword-like leaves	Left side, front bed
RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD	
ASIAN VALLEY LOOP	
FROM THE VISITOR'S CENTER, WALK THROUGH THE IRON GATE AND TURN RIGHT ON THE AGGREGATE PATH. CONTINUE STRAIGHT TO ENTER .	
ASIAN VALLEY TAKE NOTE OF THE VARIETY OF FOLIAGE COLORS AND TEXTURES CHARACTERISTIC OF AN ASIAN GARDEN	
Lenten Rose, <i>Helleborus orientalis</i> , clumps of dusky purple flowers with large leaves	Right side on hillside
AT THE INTERSECTION AT LAKE, TURN RIGHT ONTO THE GRAVEL LOOP	
* <i>Edgeworthia chrysantha</i> 'Gold Rush', shrubs with unusual creamy white flowers at tips of branches, VERY FRAGRANT!! .	End of loop, right side
BACK AT THE INTERSECTION, GO STRAIGHT AHEAD ON THE COMPOSITE PATH	
AT THE INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT	
THEN TURN LEFT DOWN THE WINDING PATH	
Fringe Flower, <i>Loropetalum</i> Chinese Razzleberry® 'Monraz', small tree with deep pink flowers, shredded petals	Left side, arching over the path
AT THE INTERSECTION BY LOWER LAKE, TURN LEFT	
TURN RIGHT ONTO BOARDWALK, BEAR LEFT AND CROSS BRIDGE TO RED BRICK PATH TO ENTER	
FLAGER PERENNIAL GARDEN LOOP	
* <i>Lily of the Valley Bush</i> , <i>Pieris japonica</i> 'Dorothy Wycoff', tall shrub with pendulous cluster of pink flowers aging to white	Right of path
BEAR RIGHT ONTO BRICK PATH	

* <i>Prunus subhirtella</i> var. <i>pendula</i> , weeping tree form with delicate white blooms	Left of path
Chinese Winterhazel, <i>Corylopsis sinensis</i> var. <i>calvescens</i> , stand of very tall, multi-stemmed shrubs with abundant tiny yellow flowers that resemble Chinese lanterns	Both sides
* <i>Prunus subhirtella</i> var. <i>pendula</i> , large weeping tree form with delicate white blooms	Right of path
Witch Hazel, <i>Hamamelis x intermedia</i> 'Arnold Promise', yellow fringed flowers, spicy scent, VERY FRAGRANT	Right of path at the intersection
TURN LEFT AT THE WOODLAND WALK SIGN, TURN LEFT DOWN THE STAIRS	
TURN LEFT TO ENTER DOT'S GARDEN	
Giant Snowflake, <i>Leucojum aestivum</i> 'Gravetye Giant', white teardrop blossoms with green tips over grassy foliage	Throughout
AT THE END OF THE PATH TURN LEFT, WALK PAST THE BRICK CIRCLE TO ENTER THE CHERRY TREE WALK	
Look for several varieties of small <i>Prunus</i> blooming along the lake side of the walk.	
Flowering Crabapple, <i>Malus</i> 'Donald Wyman', small tree with rose-colored buds opening to pale pink blooms	Left of path at entrance to Children's Garden
Snow Fountains Cherry, <i>Prunus</i> x 'Snofozam' Snow Fountains ^R , small umbrella shaped tree with frilly white flowers	Lake edge past the Tree House
Daybreak Yoshino Cherry, <i>Prunus x yedoensis</i> 'Akebono', large grouping of small trees with white blooms	Lake edge throughout
BEAR LEFT INTO LUCY PAYNE MINOR GARDEN	
Flowering Quince, <i>Chaehomeles speciosa</i> 'Cameo', low growing shrub with pale apricot double flowers held close to the stems	Left of path before 'Chance' Dock
WALK LEFT ONTO STAMPED CONCRETE WALK, THEN LEFT ONTO AGGREGATE PATH	
Yoshino Cherry, <i>Prunus x yedoensis</i> , large grouping of small trees with white blooms	Throughout, both sides of path
TURN RIGHT ON AGGREGATE MAIN GARDEN PATH	
WALK PAST THE LOUISE COCHRANE ROSE GARDEN	
Waiting for spring blooms. Enjoy the view across the lake.	
<i>Viola cornuta</i> 'PAS221923' Sorbet ® Lemon Chiffon and display of many other selections: XP Yellow, Delft Blue, Marina Improved, Morpho, Blue Blotch, and Blue Heaven	Along path
<i>Magnolia</i> x 'Sundance', a multitude of fuzzy greenish buds on tall tree	Near Left side back of bed
Coral Bark Japanese Maple, <i>Acer palmatum</i> 'Sango-Kaku', multi-stemmed trees with v-shaped habit, distinctive coral red winter bark	Left side, back of bed
THE VISITOR CENTER IS STRAIGHT AHEAD ON THE RIGHT	