

# Bright Spots



## Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

### A SELF GUIDED WALKING TOUR

August 23, 2017

#### Did you know...?

The *Victoria cruziana* (Santa Cruz waterlily or water platter) is blooming now in the ponds just in front of the Conservatory. You may not see the blooms fully open, as they last only two days. The white flower opens from an underwater bud and turns to deep pink before expiring on the second evening. In its native range (Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina) the flowers are pollinated by water beetles that get trapped in them when the flower closes in the evening. If you miss the floral display the “platters” are also intriguing.

The *Victoria* genus includes *Victoria regia*, a species named for Queen Victoria. It famously appeared in photographs with a small child standing on one of its leaves which looks to be 5' in diameter. While the *cruzianas* in the garden's ponds are smaller, they display a distinctive rigid rim that sports protective spines just above the water line. These treacherous spines (think large thorns) also cover the bottoms of the pads, and are thought to be a protection against herbivorous fish and manatees.

The species name is not a geographic designator, but per the Kew reference below, was intended as an honorific for the “President of Peru and Bolivia, Andrés de Santa Cruz (1792–1865), who sponsored an expedition to Bolivia in which the first specimens of this species were collected.”

Sources: *Waterlilies*, P. Swindells, [SB 423 .S95 1985]; *Joseph Paxton*, J. Anthony, [Biography, Paxton, 1973]; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria\\_cruziana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_cruziana); <http://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:605778-1#descriptions> ;

**\*Notable Plants:** Several times each 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
<b>CENTRAL GARDEN and CONSERVATORY LOOP</b>	
<b>FOUNTAIN TERRACE</b> <i>Tropical display in yellow, reds and purple include Caladium, Begonia, Bromeliad, Cordyline, Agave and Petunia</i> <i>Notice the four Lantana trained to a single standard in tall pots around the Fountain</i>	
OUTSIDE THE GATES TURN LEFT	
TURN RIGHT TO ENTER	

<b>GEORGE BRAGDON DAFFODIL GARDEN</b>	
Helen's Flower, <i>Helenium</i> x 'Ruby Tuesday', mounded plant, flowers have dark maroon petals around a golden eye	Right of path
* <i>Solanum quitoense</i> , dramatic green leaves with purple veins studded with spines; fuzzy fruits forming	All urns
RETURN TO THE BRICK PATH, TURN RIGHT TO	
<b>EAST and WEST TRIANGLE BEDS</b>	
<i>Summer annuals and tropicals in gold, purple and red</i>	
<b>FOUNTAIN GARDEN</b>	
<b>Upper Level</b>	
<i>Agastache</i> x 'Blue Boa', wands of fuzzy blue-purple flowers on low mounding plant	Throughout
* <i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Hibiscus Summerific</i> ® 'Cranberry Crush' deep scarlet blooms on small shrub	West side behind hydrangea
Tickseed, <i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Cruzin Broad Street', rust red daisy-like blooms over finely cut foliage	Right of path
Knockout Rose, <i>Rosa</i> 'Sunny', golden buds opening to pale yellow with deeper centers	Both sides
<i>Abelia</i> , 'Little Richard', low glossy-leaved shrub, small tubular white flowers, much visited by bees and butterflies, fragrant	Both sides
* <i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Hibiscus 'Peppermint Schnapps'</i> Cordial™ <i>Hibiscus</i> , rose pink blooms with a red eye	East side
CONTINUE UP THE STEPS TO THE CONSERVATORY	
Ornamental grass, <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> 'Blonde Ambition', spikes of bristly pale seed heads floating above clumps of blue-green foliage	Grass beds outside the Conservatory
Ravenna Grass, <i>Saccharum ravennae</i> , very tall erect, clump-forming grass	Outside corners, rear of bed
<b>Conservatory Ponds</b>	
Mosaic Plant, <i>Ludwigia sedoides</i> , red and green diamond-shaped leaves in rosettes float on water surface	Both sides
Egyptian Papyrus, <i>Cyperus papyrus</i> , tall straight stems with globe of green "threads" on top	Throughout
* <i>Victoria cruziana</i> , large floating leaves like round trays with turned up edges, older leaves have collapsed edges	Throughout
<b>CONSERVATORY</b>	
<b>Palm House</b>	
Queen Sago Palm, <i>Cycas circinalis</i> , cone-bearing evergreen, stiff leaves with stiff narrow leaflets and strongly recurved margins. Notice the emerging velvety new leaves. This plant is not actually a palm tree.	Central spiral planter, right side
Bromeliad, <i>Aechmea</i> 'Little Harv', blue green strappy foliage, flower spikes branched, flowers yellow and salmon, showy bracts pinky salmon	Central spiral planter, rear, behind pond
<b>East Wing</b>	
<b>ENJOY THE ABUNDANCE OF ORCHIDS</b>	
<i>Bougainvillea</i> x Monka', Oo-la-la <sup>®</sup> , magenta-red flower bracts on climbing branches	Far left corner, climbing on glass
<b>North Wing</b>	
<b>BUTTERFLIES LIVE! IS OPEN UNTIL OCTOBER 15</b>	

<b>West Wing</b>	
Ellemeet's Agave, <i>Agave ellemeetiana</i> , huge specimen with gracefully curving leaves, from the cloud forests of Mexico near Oaxaca	Left of entrance
Crown of Thorns, <i>Euphorbia milii</i> , large succulent plant, bright green leaves grow along thick, thorny stems; pink flower bracts; in container	Far end, past cottage, left side
<i>Oxalis triangularis</i> 'Mijke', dark purple triangular leaves with pale shell pink flowers	Throughout
<b>OUTSIDE WEST WING</b> <b>PROCEED AHEAD TO VISIT KROGER COMMUNITY KITCHEN GARDEN AND OUR DEMONSTRATION APIARY</b>	
<b>RETRACE STEPS</b> <b>FROM CONSERVATORY PROCEED DOWN STEPS TO</b>	
<b>FOUNTAIN GARDEN</b> <b><i>A lush planting of summer annuals</i></b>	
<b>TURN LEFT ALONG TRIANGLE BEDS</b> <b>FOUNTAIN GARDEN</b> <b>Lower Level</b>	
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia</i> 'Lipan', bright lavender blooms above mottled silver trunks	Throughout
<b>AT INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT TOWARD EDUCATION CENTER, THEN LEFT TO ENTER</b>	
<b>MEDITATION GARDEN</b> <b>RIGHT OF PATH</b> <b><i>Bromeliads, Cannas, Petunias, Begonias, and Grasses</i></b>	
*Ruby Grass, <i>Melinis nerviglumis</i> 'Pink Crystals', dusky rose seed heads aging to buff on arching stems over grassy foliage	Throughout
*South African Foxglove, <i>Ceratotheca triloba</i> , not a true foxglove but flowers are similarly shaped and hang in clusters. White and pink flowers with pale violet stripes highlighting the inner throats. Bees love it!	Center bed
<b>MEDICINAL GARDEN</b> <b>LEFT OF PATH</b>	
*Ornamental Pepper, <i>Capsicum annum</i> 'Black Pearl', clusters of black berries above dark purple foliage, tiny lavender flowers	Center rear bed
<b>WALK STRAIGHT INTO</b>	
<b>FOUR SEASONS GARDEN</b>	
Reed Grass, <i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i> 'Karl Foerster', ornamental grass with erect clumps of narrow, flattened, green leaves, tall feather plumes	Throughout
Yellow Patrinia, <i>Patrinia scabiosifolia</i> , umbels of chrome yellow above ferny foliage	Right bed
<b>RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD</b>	
<b>ASIAN VALLEY LOOP</b> <b>TAKE NOTE OF THE VARIETY OF FOLIAGE COLORS AND TEXTURES CHARACTERISTIC OF AN ASIAN GARDEN</b>	
<b>AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT WALKING ALONG LAKE.</b>	
Weeping Katsura Tree, <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> f. <i>pendulum</i> , small tree with heart-shaped blue-green leaves aging to peach	Right of path
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , five petal pearl pink flowers around golden centers on long arching stems	Left of path

AT THE INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT	
THEN TURN LEFT DOWN THE WINDING PATH	
AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT THEN RIGHT ONTO BOARDWALK TO ENTER	
<b>WEST ISLAND GARDEN</b> <b>A WETLAND ECOSYSTEM</b>	
+Fringe Tree, <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> , small tree bearing green olive-like drupes aging to black	Both sides of boardwalk at entrance
Joe Pye Weed, <i>Eutrochium dubium</i> 'Little Joe', (formerly <i>Eupatorium</i> ) buds opening to clusters of flat mauve flowers on sturdy stems	Along walkway
+Ironweed, <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i> , tall upright plant with fluffy deep purple flowers	Left of boardwalk
* <b>Beauty Berry, <i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i></b> , shrub with vivid purple berries along arching stems	Left of boardwalk
+Meadow Beauty, <i>Rhexia virginica</i> , erect perennial with rose-pink blooms, large yellow anthers	Central bed
AT THE END OF THE BOARDWALK, TURN LEFT THEN	
TURN LEFT ON THE BRICK PATH TO ENTER	
<b>Joan Van Arnham Memorial Walk</b>	
Windflower, <i>Anemone japonica</i> 'Queen Charlotte', pale pink flowers with striking yellow centers on long graceful stems	Left of path
Azalea, <i>Rhododendron</i> 'Autumn Royalty', reblooming azalea with fuchsia pink trumpet flowers	Left of path
AT THE INTERSECTION, BEAR RIGHT TO ENTER	
<b>FLAGER PERENNIAL GARDEN LOOP</b>	
BEAR RIGHT ONTO BRICK PATH	
Hostas and Ferns mingle with a wonderful variety of textures and colors.	Throughout
Coral Bells, <i>Heuchera x villosa</i> 'Frosted Violet', velvety purple leaves with darker veins, dainty pearl-like flowers on wiry stems	Right of path and throughout
Look Left across the Stream, Note the Variety of Forms and Textures in the Emerging Grass Garden on the Berm	
* <b>Japanese Forest Grass, <i>Hakonechloa macra</i> 'All Gold'</b> , neon yellow-green arching foliage	Left of path
TURN LEFT AT THE WOODLAND WALK SIGN, LOOK TOWARDS ROAD	
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , pale lavender flower with yellow center on long wiry stems	Left of path at intersection
TURN LEFT AT THE WOODLAND WALK SIGN, TURN LEFT DOWN THE STAIRS	
Ostrich Fern, <i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> , green fronds with vase-shaped growth, inner leaves resemble ostrich feathers	Right of path
Hardy Begonia, <i>Begonia grandis</i> 'Alba', dangling white flowers over handsome bronzy leaves with red undersides	Both sides of path near pool
BEAR LEFT AT THE FORK, THROUGH THE SMALL GATE	
Voodoo Lily, <i>Sauromatum venosum</i> , U-shaped cluster of lance shaped leaves, distinctive leopard spotted stems	Left of path
CONTINUE ON PATH	
AT THE END OF THE PATH, TURN RIGHT, TO ENTER THE	
<b>GRACE ARENTS GARDEN</b> <b>A VICTORIAN STYLE GARDEN</b>	

A collection of annuals in pastel shades accented with lime green	Throughout
Japanese Rose, <i>Rosa rugosa</i> , showy orange-red fruit called "hips" follow blooms	Perimeter beds
<b>WALK PAST THE BRICK CIRCLE TO ENTER THE CHERRY TREE WALK</b>	
* <b>Obedient Plant, <i>Physostegia virginiana</i></b> , tall spikes of lavender tubular flowers rise above sharply toothed leaves	Left of path
Gaura, <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> 'Rosyjane', graceful wands of white blooms edged with candy pink	Throughout
Daylily, <i>Hemerocallis</i> 'Bisque', yellow blooms with a blush throat on tall stems	At lakeside before lotus
Lotus, <i>Nelumbo</i> 'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum', large blue-green leaves, seed pods that look like shower heads	Left side, along lake's edge
Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> DVppinky' Pinky Winky®, small shrub with white panicles aging to dusky pink	Both sides
* <b>Switchgrass, <i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Northwind'</b> , olive green to blue green grass topped by beige plumes	Left of path before tree house
* <b>Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> 'Black Truffle'</b> , red tubular-shaped flowers on tall stems, a favorite of hummingbirds	Next to tree house at lake's edge
* <b>Blue Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i></b> , stiff unbranched stems topped with blue tubular flowers	Next to tree house at lake's edge
+Prairie Dock, <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> , stands of tall sunflower-like blooms	Left at lake's edge
Little Bluestem, <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> 'Standing Ovation', grass clumps with sturdy upright blue-green stems; clusters of fluffy silver-white seed heads	Left of path
<b>BEAR LEFT INTO LUCY PAYNE MINOR GARDEN</b>	
Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Ilvobo', white fluffy panicles on low mounding shrub	Left of path and throughout
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> 'Annabelle', mounded shrub covered in white globes maturing to green	Right of path
<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'White Lace', very tall vase-shaped shrub with white lacey flowers on drooping stems	Left of path
<b>CONTINUE ON AGGREGATE WALK AROUND TO THE LEFT</b>	
Russian Sage, <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> , lavender flower spikes on billows of silvery foliage	Right of path
Bottlebrush Buckeye, <i>Aesculus parviflora</i> , large shrub with palmate leaves and emerging brown fig-shaped fruit	Right of path
Narrow Leaf Ironweed, <i>Vernonia lettermannii</i> 'Iron Butterfly', 2-3 foot perennial with thread-like leaves, violet-purple flowers, dense clumps	Left of path
* <b>Ginkgo, <i>Ginkgo</i> 'Mariken'</b> , small specimen tree that only grows 2-3 ft. tall with distinctive ginkgo leaf shape and color	Left of path
<b>VIENNA COBB ANDERSON MEADOW AND CONSTRUCTED WETLAND</b>	
Spend a minute taking in the variety of color and texture in our densely planted meadow. Birds and pollinators appreciate the abundance of food and shelter that the plants provide.	
Mountain Mint, <i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i> , tall stems of soft silver green foliage with tiny button-shaped flowers, teeming with bees	Right of path
+Meadow Evening Primrose, <i>Oenothera biennis</i> , brilliant yellow flowers on exceptionally tall stems grow from a basal rosette of leaves	Throughout at the rear of lakeside beds

Brown-eyed Susan, <i>Rudbeckia triloba</i> , 3-4 foot, many small bright yellow daisies with dark brown centers, densely-branched	Right, by path
<b>LOUISE COCHRANE ROSE GARDEN</b>	
Directions are from the labyrinth, facing the lake	
<i>Rosa</i> 'Lavaglut', Floribunda (Kordes), clusters of small black-red flowers on short 2-3' bush, tolerant of rain and heat, slightly fragrant	Right side, outer bed on Main Garden Walk
<i>Rosa</i> 'Evelyn', Shrub Rose (David Austin), pink blush double blooms, very fragrant	Right side, outer bed on Main Garden Walk
<i>Rosa</i> 'Windemere', English Rose (David Austin), creamy white flowers, 2-3 feet, strong fragrance	Left side, outer bed near bench
<i>Rosa</i> 'Innocencia Vigorosa', Floribunda (Kordes), clusters of pure white double blooms on short 1-2' spreading shrub, light fragrance	Left outermost bed near metal tuteur
EXIT THE ROSE GARDEN, TURN RIGHT ON THE AGGREGATE PATH	
<b>MAIN GARDEN PATH</b>	
Dwarf Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Gamad1' RAZZLE DAZZLE CHERRY, low-growing prostrate shrub with crimson panicles	Triangle bed opposite Lotus Bridge
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , drifts of five petal flowers in shades of pink on long arching stems	Left of path on berm
Kalimeris, <i>Kalimeris mongolica</i> , white button flowers on lime green stems	Left of path
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Lord Baltimore', huge, deep pink flowers on very tall stems	Right of path
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Blue River II', large white flowers on tall stems	Right of path
* <i>Hibiscus</i> 'Kopper King', tall stems, dark leaves, large pink flowers with red centers	Right of path
THE VISITOR CENTER IS STRAIGHT AHEAD ON THE LEFT	