

## Bright Spots



# Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

A SELF GUIDED WALKING TOUR

August 24, 2016

Did you know...

Sometimes an alert visitor points out a “bright spot” that we have overlooked. *Duranta erecta* ‘Gold Edge’ is a recent example of such a helpful contribution. This small shrub is hiding in plain sight in the outside borders of the Grace Arents Garden. It is a show stopper for its variegated foliage. A golden edge along the glossy green leaves provides a bright neutral background for the blooms in the beds lining the center pathways.

*Duranta erecta* is a tropical, native to Florida and other Zone 10-11 areas where it can grow to 18’ tall. This variety is more manageable, at a height of 2’-4’. It is heat and drought tolerant. It is not hardy in central Virginia, but can be grown as a container plant and overwintered in a sunny room.

While our garden’s plants are not currently in bloom, the racemes of blue blossoms are attractive to butterflies. The color explains one of the plant’s common names -- Sky Flower. It is also known as Golden Dew Drop for the yellow berries that are formed after flowering. Birds can eat these attractive berries but they are somewhat poisonous to humans, so they should not be planted in a children’s play area.

Sources: <http://www.onlineplantguide.com/Plant-Details/818/>;  
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=a507>;  
<http://www.floridata.com/Plants/Verbenaceae/Duranta%20erecta/589>

\***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
<b>CENTRAL GARDEN and CONSERVATORY LOOP</b>	
Notice the Upright Elephant Ear, <i>Alocasia</i> ‘Portodora’ with plantings of Canna, Lantana, Salvia and other seasonal annuals	In pots and around the fountain
OUTSIDE THE GATES TURN LEFT	
TURN RIGHT TO ENTER	
<b>GEORGE BRAGDON DAFFODIL GARDEN</b>	
Leadwort, <i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> , low-growing ground cover with deep blue flowers	Throughout

Windflower, <i>Anemone x hybrida</i> 'Party Dress', fluffy pink double flowers on long wiry stems to 3'	Center raised bed
RETURN TO THE BRICK PATH, TURN RIGHT TO	
<b>EAST and WEST TRIANGLE BEDS</b>	
Bold-colored annuals in LEGO ® iconic colors (including Salvia, Coleus, Canna, Mexican Petunia and Marigolds) planted in block shapes to echo LEGO ® Brick shapes.	Throughout
CONTINUE UP THE STEPS	
<b>Ornamental Grass Garden</b>	
+Prairie Dropseed, <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> , flower panicles rise above slender foliage	Both sides
Blue Grama Grass, <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> 'Blonde Ambition', tufted grass with narrow bluish gray leaf blades and chartreuse flowers on tall stems	Both sides (new planting)
Switchgrass, <i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Northwind', olive green to blue green grass topped by beige plumes	Both sides
<b>Conservatory Ponds</b>	
Pickrel Weed, <i>Pontederia cordata</i> , tall, blue to purple flower spikes, heart-shaped foliage	Throughout
Hardy Water Lily, <i>Nymphaea</i> 'Peaches & Cream', 'Red Flare', 'Evelyn Randig'	Throughout
<i>Victoria cruziana</i> , huge floating leaves like round trays with turned-up edges; large pink flowers in center opens at dusk	Throughout
Egyptian Papyrus, <i>Cyperus papyrus</i> , tall straight stems with globe of green "threads" on top	Throughout
<b>CONSERVATORY</b>	
<b>East Wing</b>	
Take time to appreciate the ever-changing orchid display	
<b>North Wing</b>	
<b>Butterflies Live!</b>	
FROM CONSERVATORY, PROCEED AHEAD TO	
<b>FOUNTAIN GARDEN</b>	
<b>Sunken Garden</b>	
Plantings of Elephant Ears, Cannas, Zinnias and colorful grasses	Throughout
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia</i> 'Lipan', mid-size tree, pink bloom	Outside beds
TURN LEFT ALONG TRIANGLE BEDS	
<b>FOUNTAIN GARDEN</b>	
<b>Upper Level</b>	
<i>Abelia</i> , 'Little Richard', low glossy-leaved shrub, small tubular white flowers, much visited by bees and butterflies, fragrant	Throughout
AT INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT TOWARD EDUCATION CENTER , THEN LEFT TO ENTER	
<b>MEDITATION GARDEN</b>	
RIGHT OF PATH	
Plantings of white Zinnias, Cosmos, and Salvias	Throughout
Papaya, <i>Carica papaya</i> , dramatic plant with large deeply lobed leaves	Left corner bed
<b>MEDICINAL GARDEN</b>	
LEFT OF PATH	
Castor Bean, <i>Ricinus communis</i> , bronze green deeply-lobed leaves. All parts of the plant are highly poisonous.	Left side, outside grass circle

CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD TO ENTER	
<b>FOUR SEASONS GARDEN</b>	
<i>Salvia</i> 'Balsalmisp' Mystic Spires Blue™ , tall plant with dark purple blooms	Pots on both sides
Tickseed, <i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Zagreb', yellow flowers in a cloud of finely textured thread-like leaves	Front right bed
RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD	
<b>MAIN GARDEN PATH and LOUISE COCHRANE ROSE GARDEN LOOP</b>	
FROM THE VISITOR CENTER, WALK THROUGH THE IRON GATE AND TURN RIGHT ONTO THE AGGREGATE PATH, THEN LEFT TO GO DOWN HILL	
TURN LEFT ON AGGREGATE <b>MAIN GARDEN PATH</b>	
Bold-colored annuals and tropical plants in LEGO® iconic colors- Pineapple Sage, Chenille Plant, Copper Leaf, Joseph's Coat, Purple Fountain grass, Abutilon to name a few are planted in blocks to recall LEGO® Brick shapes.	Both sides of path
<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Pink Diamond', tall shrub with white panicles aging to pink	Left in front of brick wall
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Blue River II', huge white flowers on tall stems	Left of path
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus</i> x 'Lord Baltimore', huge, classic red flowers on very tall stems	Left of path
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , pale lavender flower with yellow center on long wiry stems	Right side on hill by Kousa dogwood
Kalimeris, <i>Kalimeris mongolica</i> , white button flowers on lime green stems	Right of path
* <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> 'Goldsturm', gold-colored, daisy-like flowers on tall stems	Right of path around bench
TURN LEFT TO ENTER THE <b>LOUISE COCHRANE ROSE GARDEN</b> DIRECTIONS FOR LOCATING ROSE SELECTIONS ARE GIVEN FROM THE CIRCULAR LABYRINTH FACING THE LAKE	
ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE STONE PAVILION, TURN LEFT UNDER THE WOODEN ARBOR	
<i>Rosa</i> , 'Cherry Parfait', Grandiflora, Meiland, 3-4' tall, creamy white bloom with red edges, fragrant	Right of path
<i>Rosa</i> 'Country Song', Modern Shrub, Buck, 2-3' tall, pink chiffon bloom, fragrant	Left of path, around curve of bed
BEAR RIGHT DOWN HILL ON THE PATH	
<i>Rosa</i> 'Earth Song', Modern Shrub, Buck, 3-6' tall, rich pink, lightly fragrant	Tall plant, left of path
RETURN TO MAIN GARDEN PATH, TURN RIGHT AND TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD	
<b>LOWER GARDEN LOOP</b>	
FROM THE SMALL TRIANGLE BED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MAIN GARDEN WALK, CROSS THE LOTUS BRIDGE	
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Gamad I' RAZZLE DAZZLE CHERRY, low growing prostrate shrub with crimson panicles	Triangle bed before Lotus Bridge
<i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Abelmoschus manihot</i> , lemon yellow trumpet flowers on tall stems with striking deep lobed leaves	Left of path, far end of the bridge
TURN RIGHT TOWARD	

<b>GRACE ARENTS GARDEN</b> A VICTORIAN GARDEN IN SHADES OF CORAL, PINK AND LIME WITH ACCENTS OF LAVENDER AND PURPLE	
* <b>Japanese Rose, <i>Rosa rugosa</i></b> , showy orange red fruit called "hips" follow blooms	Perimeter beds
Polyantha Rose, <i>Rosa</i> 'Mrs. R.M. Finch', small delicate pink flowers	Along inner beds
* <b><i>Duranta erecta</i></b> 'Gold Edge', small shrub with fine toothed leaves edged in gold	Outer borders
EXIT THROUGH THE GAZEBO, TURN RIGHT, PROCEED TO THE STONE CIRCLE	
WALK TOWARDS CHILDREN'S GARDEN, TO ENTER <b>CHERRY TREE WALK</b>	
Obedient Plant, <i>Physostegia virginiana</i> , tall spikes of lavender tubular flowers rise above sharply toothed leaves	Left side
Rose of Sharon, <i>Hibiscus</i> 'Full Blast', lilac bloom, shading to dark pink throat, shrub	Left of path
+Swamp Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i> , spectacular variety of white and rose mallows in full bloom	Both sides of lake front
* <b>Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i></b> 'DVppinky' Pinky Winky® small shrub with white panicles aging to dusky pink	Left of path
<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i> 'Henry Eilers', mass of tall plants with dainty yellow petals around a chocolate center	Left of path
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Delec' Delta Flame™ small multi-trunked tree with vivid deep burgundy leaves and dark red blooms	Left of path
+Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> , bright red flowers on tall spikes	Left of path
FOLLOW PATH AS IT CURVES LEFT AROUND THE LAKE INTO <b>LUCY PAYNE MINOR GARDEN</b>	
Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Ilvobo', white fluffy panicles on low mounding shrub	Left of path and throughout
BEAR RIGHT ONTO STAMPED CONCRETE WALK TOWARD RUSTIC GAZEBO	
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> 'Annabelle', mounded shrub covered in lime green globes	Left of path
TURN RIGHT ONTO AGGREGATE PATH FOLLOING THE CURVE AROUND TURN LEFT ONTO THE GRASS PATH TO ENTER <b>MARGARET STREB CONIFER GARDEN</b>	
Big Leaf Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i> 'Nigra', striking purple-black stems on tall shrub, large rose to blue flower heads	Right side, bed under tree
Sawara Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i> 'Plumosa Aureovariegata Nana', shrub with lacy green foliage and bright yellow new growth	Left of path
TURN LEFT ONTO AGGREGATE PATH	
<b>VIENNA COBB ANDERSON MEADOW AND CONSTRUCTED WETLAND</b>	
Spend a moment 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.	
+ Meadow Evening Primrose, <i>Oenothera biennis</i> , brilliant yellow flowers grow from a basal rosette of leaves	Throughout
+ <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> , tall grass to 5 or 6 feet, seed heads with 3 spikelets earning it the name "turkey foot"	Right of path near LEGO Bison
Blue Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> , stiff unbranched stalks topped with blue tubular flowers	Left of path near dock

Joe Pye Weed, <i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i> , (old name: <i>Eupatorium</i> ) pinkish-purple flowers in large domed flower cluster, tall chocolate-colored stems	Right of path at bamboo screen
<b>WALK ALONG THE LAKE TO RETURN TO THE TRIANGLE BED ON MAIN GARDEN WALK, TURN RIGHT TO RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR ADD</b>	
<b>FLAGLER PERENNIAL GARDEN LOOP</b>	
<b>FROM THE SMALL TRIANGLE BED, CROSS THE LOTUS BRIDGE. FOLLOW THE PATH TO THE RIGHT, TURN RIGHT TO CROSS THE GREEN MONET BRIDGE</b>	
<b>TURN LEFT TO ENTER FLAGLER GARDEN KEEPING THE STREAM ON YOUR LEFT</b>	
Take Note of Varied Hostas Along the Path	
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 opposite stream and throughout
Look Left Across The Stream, Note The Variety Of Forms and Textures in the Grass Garden on the Berm, seed heads emerging	
Sweet Coneflower, <i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i> , lanky plant, flowers have gold petals radiating from green center	Left of path
Japanese Forest Grass, <i>Hakonechloa macra</i> 'All Gold', neon yellow-green arching foliage	Left of path
Dwarf Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'New Orleans', densely branched, miniature weeping shrub with bright purple flowers	Right of path atop the berm
Windflower, <i>Anemone hupehensis</i> , pale lavender flower with yellow center on long stems	Left of path at intersection
<b>AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT TO ENTER THE WOODLAND WALK, DOT'S GARDEN AND ROB'S GARDEN</b>	
These Gardens are Filled With Ferns and other Shade-Loving Plants.	
<b>OR</b>	
<b>CONTINUE ON PATH THROUGH THE STONE ARCH</b>	
<b>WALK AHEAD TO THE Ian Robertson Pavilion</b>	
Enjoy The Pots Containing Summer Blooms	
<b>GO THROUGH THE SECOND ARCH. CONTINUE AHEAD ON THE PATH.</b>	
* <b>Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> 'Limelight'</b> , upright growing shrub with oval dark green leaves and lime-green panicles aging to pink	Left of path at intersection
<b>AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT TO RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER OR</b>	
<b>CONTINUE STRAIGHT TO ENTER THE JOAN VAN ARNAM MEMORIAL WALK</b>	
See A Variety Of Azaleas, Crape Myrtles and Other Shade-Loving Plants	
* <b>Windflower, <i>Anemone japonica</i> 'Queen Charlotte'</b> , pale pink flowers with striking yellow centers on long wiry stems	Left of path
* <b>Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Potomac'</b> , multi-stemmed tree with cinnamon exfoliating bark and showy bright pink flowers. Look UP!	Both sides of path
<b>TURN LEFT TO CROSS THE BOARDWALK BRIDGE AND RETURN TO THE TRIANGLE BED AT THE BASE OF THE MAIN GARDEN PATH TURN LEFT TO RETURN TO THE VISITOR CENTER</b>	
<b>WEST ISLAND AND ASIAN VALLEY LOOP</b>	
<b>FROM THE TRIANGLE BED, TURN LEFT ONTO THE BOARDWALK BRIDGE</b>	

<b>WEST ISLAND GARDEN</b>	
<b>REMAIN ON THE BOARDWALK</b>	
Note Colorful Umbrella-Like <i>Sarracenia</i> Flowers on Long Stems.	Throughout
Joe Pye Weed, <i>Eutrochium dubium</i> 'Little Joe' (old name <i>Eupatorium</i> ), buds opening to clusters of flat mauve flowers on sturdy stems	Along walkway
Blue Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> , stiff unbranched stalks topped with blue tubular flowers	Right of boardwalk
+Ironweed, <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i> , tall upright plant with fluffy deep purple flowers	Left of boardwalk and throughout
Beauty Berry, <i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i> , shrub with vivid purple berries along arching stems	Left of boardwalk
<b>AT THE END OF THE BOARDWALK TURN RIGHT AND WALK ALONG THE LAKE</b>	
Blood-Twig Dogwood, <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> , tall lanky shrub with clusters of deep purple fruit	Right of path on lake edge
<b>BEYOND THE STREAM, TURN LEFT AND WALK UP THE WINDING PATH TO ENTER</b>	
<b>ASIAN VALLEY</b>	
<b>AT THE TOP OF THE PATH, TURN RIGHT AND THEN LEFT AT THE SHOJI SCREEN</b>	
Variiegated Himalayan Pine, <i>Pinus wallichiana</i> 'Zebrina', elegant long drooping blue needles banded with creamy yellow	Right of path beyond gravel intersection
<b>AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN TO GO UP THE HILL</b>	
Prostrate Japanese Plum Yew, <i>Cephalotaxus harringtonia</i> 'Prostrata', low-growing shrub with glossy dark green leaves, note prominent plum-shaped seed pods	Top of path, right side
* <b>Plantain Lily, <i>Hosta</i> 'Sun Power'</b> , large lime green pleated leaves, white flowers atop long stems	Left of path
<b>THE VISITOR CENTER IS STRAIGHT AHEAD ON THE LEFT</b>	