

HUDSONIANA

March 2020

CALENDAR

March 14

**10:00 – “The ABCs of Rock Gardening” – Mike Wilson
Lyndhurst Carriage House**

REMINDER

**BRING IN PLANTS
FOR SHOW AND
TELL**

Bring a breakfast item to share

Michael’s topic is *The ABC’s of Rock Gardens*. This slide presentation explains three critical subjects for the successful culture of alpine plants in the New Jersey/New York area. Alpine Ecology gives an understanding of the native habitat, while Building and Maintaining explains growing alpine plants at low elevations. The Compendium of Plants gives a list of plants that perform well in New Jersey/New York

Michael Wilson, environmental horticulturist, is the Horticultural Laboratory Technician for Cornell University Cooperative Extension Service of Rockland County and is an Adjunct Professor of Environmental Studies at Ramapo College of New Jersey. He is also a member of the US Study Team for the Aral Sea Disaster in Uzbekistan and has researched the environmental impact from the cultivation of cotton in that region. Michael retired in 2009 after 20 years at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum and previously trained at the NJ Botanical Garden at Skylands.

Michael has been a member of the North American Rock Garden Society since 1992. He is active in the Watnong Chapter in New Jersey and has served various roles with-in the chapter. He was responsible for the rock gardens at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum and also grows alpine plants at home. Michael has also hiked many alpine summits in the northeast US, Newfoundland, Colorado, Iceland and Uzbekistan.

April 4

Flower Show – Lyndhurst

April 18

**Lori Chips “Troughs—Gardening in the Smallest
Landscape”**

April 25

Stonecrop Plant Sale – Cold Spring

May 9

Plant Sale at Lyndhurst

Program Notes – Feb. 8, 2020

by: Jane Moyer

Our speaker was none other than Don Dembowski whose talk was about Woodland Plants found in his garden and other places. Right away we saw *Daphne jezoensis* with its pretty yellow flowers (!!!) which flowers very early. Other yellow blossoms may be found on a blooming dwarf *Rhododendron* "Wren." *Primula* "Wanda" is an early bloomer. Don's is a bright cerise with the usual yellow eye. This plant is not fussy and spreads quite easily.

Don showed us the Japanese native, *Jeffersonia dubia*. Its bright blue flowers make an early show. The native *Jeffersonia diphylla* blooms later and has larger twin leaves which have their own charm. *Trillium grandiflorum* flore pleno is the double white-flowered trillium which will often multiply by producing offsets. If you plan to divide your plant, don't forget to treat the rhizome with fungicide and allow to dry before putting back in the ground. *Asarum splendens* (Chinese wild ginger) has dark green, elongated, silvery-mottled leaves; the native *Asarum shuttleworthii* has heart-shaped leaves with its interesting tracery of light colored lines.

Iris cristata "Dick Redfield" has gorgeous dark blue and purple blooms; "Mt. Girl" has light blue blooms. *Anemone thalictroides* "Green Hurricane" has green flowers which might resemble pinwheels! *Primula sieboldii* "Fuji Shishi" has a wonderful lavender double-flowered blossom. Next up is one of Don's favorite plants: *Stewartia malacodendron* (silky camellia, a shrub or small tree) with its white blooms and purple stamens. We also saw a beautiful purple/lavender geranium, *G. wlassowianum*, a *Franklinia altamaha* tree, a *Calycanthus* (spicebush) with its fragrant flowers, and a dwarf redbud. Thank you, Don, for sharing some of your favorite woodland plants with us.

IN THE GARDEN NOW

