



Gardenline

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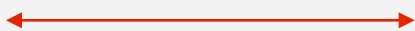
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It Was a Great Spring for Larkspurs

By Alda Krinsman,
Garden Gate Plant Shop Coordinator

We had a beautiful spring this year in Northern Virginia. There was just the right amount of precipitation (compared to the drenching last spring), and the air temperature warmed slowly and stayed in comfortable ranges for many weeks. Consequently, spring flowers lasted for a long time, unlike in years when the temperatures rise too quickly.

One of the plants that benefitted from the mild spring was *Consolida ajacis*, also known as rocket larkspur. At Green Spring Gardens larkspur was a standout in many of the garden beds, and we received many inquiries for the name of “that tall blue, purple, lavender ... flowering plant out by the gazebo, in front of the glass house, by the traffic circle, etc.”

Consolida ajacis is an annual species (meaning it germinates from seed, grows, flowers, sets seed, and dies within one year). However, because *Consolida ajacis* self-sows so abundantly, crops can return year after year in the same garden site making people believe it is a perennial plant. New colonies also develop in nearby sites because seed is transferred by wind, water, people, and animals. Allow the flowers to go to seed, and you will have larkspurs year after year.

Consolida ajacis is native to Europe and Asia but was introduced to North America (perhaps by European settlers) and has naturalized through many parts of North America. It is grown as an ornamental plant in flower beds and as a cut flower and for drying. Many visitors wanted to know if they could purchase *Consolida ajacis* from the Garden Gate Plant Shop or other nurseries and were disappointed to learn that it is not a plant commonly sold

Larkspurs continued on next page



A mature patch of rocket larkspur (*Consolida ajacis*)
(Photo credit: Arizona State University Cooperative Extension)

in pots in nurseries because it does not transplant well. However, seeds are available for sale from a number of catalogue sources.

Growing *Consolida ajacis* from seed is very simple. Simply scatter fresh seed in a prepared flower bed in autumn and lightly cover the scattered seed with a thin layer of soil or leaf mulch. Make sure the planting bed receives full sun and is moist but well drained. After sowing, lightly water the bed and let it be until spring when seedlings should start appearing. Seeds need darkness and the winter's cold temperatures if they are to germinate in spring. Once seedlings appear in spring, you can gently thin them so the remaining seedlings have adequate space to grow. If you have a successful crop, from then on you simply let a few plants go to seed before removing them after they die in early summer. Most plants will brown out, die, and set seed in our area by mid-June.

There are two species of larkspur that are native to parts of Virginia and, unlike *Consolida ajacis*, are perennials. The first, *Delphinium tricorne*, sometimes referred to as dwarf larkspur, is a spring ephemeral that breaks dormancy and flowers in early to mid-spring, then returns to dormancy when the temperatures rise. It can be

found growing in woodlands where it takes advantage of spring sun before the tree canopy leafs out but still benefits from some shade. It has blue, sometimes white, and sometimes blue and white flowers and grows 1 to 2 feet in height. The second native species, *Delphinium exaltatum*, also known as tall larkspur, prefers full sun and blooms in the summer time. It can grow from 4 to 6 feet in height and has beautiful blue flowers. In hot humid areas it does appreciate some afternoon shade.

Delphinium tricorne and *Delphinium exaltatum* can be purchased as potted plants or sometimes as dormant bare roots in autumn either through specialty nurseries or from retailers online. However, all three species can be grown from seed by those with a little DIY spirit who plan ahead.

Growing *Delphinium exaltatum* and *Delphinium tricorne* from seed can also be done in autumn. Seeds of these species can be directly sown in garden beds; however, it may take a year or two for them to grow to flowering size. It may be easier to care for the seedlings of these species if the seed is sown outdoors in seed flats placed in a protected area or a cold frame. It is best to

Larkspurs continued on next page

Larkspurs continued

protect seed flats from digging critters and downpours with a covering of mesh or screening material. Seeds also need the cold of winter to force germination. Once seedlings appear in spring and have developed true leaves they can be transplanted into nursery pots or directly into nursery beds.

Although the flowers of all three larkspur species are beautiful and noted for their shades of blue,

purple, and sometimes pink, it should be noted that all parts of all three species, including the seeds, are toxic if ingested. This makes them safe from deer and rabbit browsing, but they should be kept out of the way of small children, pets, and grazing livestock. It is best to wear gloves when handling all parts of the plants.



Fall Garden Day 2019

Sept 21, 9 am - 3 pm

Fall Garden Day is shaping up to be another winner with something to tempt everyone!

We will have multi-vendor plant sales,* a bake sale with home-made goodies, and our not-to-be-missed *FROGS Silent Auction!* King Street Bluegrass will provide the live soundtrack to a fabulous day.

FROGS Silent Auction

Wonderful items have been donated this year as well as gift certificates and get-a-ways. The auction is held in the Multi-Purpose room in the Horticulture Center; bidding starts at 9 am, and tables are marked with bidding end times. Bidders need not be present at auction closing to win.

Garden Gate Plant Shop

Be sure to visit our Garden Gate Plant Shop, open during Fall Garden Day. FROGS members enjoy a 10% discount on Plant Shop purchases!

* Check friendsofgreenspring.org in early September for a list of vendors.

**Save the Date —
Don't miss this family-friendly
fun day!**



Manager's Message

Ah, it's summertime, and the living is easy (said no one ever at Green Spring 😊)! It is hot, and the plants are thirsty. The hustle and bustle of the spring planting activity has transitioned to hauling 400 feet of hoses and sprinklers from garden to garden. On that note, I am pleased to announce that this should be the last summer staff will have to manually water the grounds. Green Spring was awarded an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) grant by Fairfax County for fiscal year 2020. We are honored to receive \$138,000 in funding for smart irrigation, which will get us moving in the right direction for environmental sustainability and staff efficiency.



Nicole Conners
(Photo: Ivy Sinaiko)

Next, I would like to focus on the success of the recent, June 17-21, American Public Garden Association Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference doubled in size – attendees, tours, partner gardens, and sessions – since the last time it was held in D.C. in 2007.

Green Spring shone on the national stage. I am humbled by the support of FROGS for this event. Your support provided many opportunities for publicity and put us in good company with renowned public gardens from the surrounding area. Our staff and volunteers banded together for the last many months to put extra work in the gardens to be sure we showcased our beautiful gardens, green landscape, and historic house in style.

We were part of a pre-conference tour on Monday June 17 and welcomed 50 visitors from

all around the world. We rolled out our green carpet, and everyone left impressed. They loved Green Spring and got to experience firsthand what a special place our garden is. Furthermore, they got to meet our dedicated staff, wonderful volunteers, and community partners. They even got to meet Ribbit! FROGS provided

refreshments, which were very well received.

Staff is extremely grateful for the professional development opportunities that FROGS provided. Staff got to attend this conference and be among peers and colleagues to learn about creative ideas for programs, horticultural best practices, innovation in plant collections, and how to best manage plant records. All of these are very important aspects of our mission at Green Spring.

Sarah Munroe and I made a presentation on our Beatrix Farrand landscape in a panel presentation entitled, *Genius from Gender Diversity in Design*. We partnered with Dumbarton Oaks and Tregaron Conservancy to present this session. Nearly 50 people attended. Many thanks to Sarah for her leadership with this panel. It was a terrific collaboration that has led to the development of valuable partners. Pam Smith and Extension Master Gardener Marylou Wall had an awesome rapid-fire presentation, to a full room of 70, on the diversity of Green Spring's program.

It was splendid to see many of our volunteers in the hallways supporting this event and learning about public gardens. We all have come back inspired with fresh ideas, ready to elevate Green Spring to the next level with programming, garden design, and exhibits!

Manager's Message continued on next page

Manager's Message continued

Finally, I hope you enjoyed this year's summer concert! A special thank you goes to Gioia Caiola Forman and Susan Voss for chairing an excellent event that welcomed more families than ever to our special place. If you missed the concert, make sure to visit this summer and remember,

"There is always music amongst the trees in the Garden, but our hearts must be very quiet to hear it."

— *Minnie Aumonier*

Come enjoy your quiet space at Green Spring; we look forward to seeing you!

Nicole Conners, Park Manager

NACPRO Honors Excellence at Awards Banquet

The Friends of Green Spring, FROGS, was honored by the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) as an Outstanding Support Organization at NACPRO's annual Awards Banquet held June 9, 2019, in Castle Rock, CO. Tatiana Lisle, FROGS Treasurer, accepted the award on behalf of FROGS.

NACPRO is a non-profit professional organization that advances policies to promote county and regional park and recreation issues while providing members with opportunities to network, exchange ideas and best practices, and enhance professional development.

The NACPRO Board of Directors recognized 36 individuals, organizations, programs, and projects at the annual Awards Banquet. One hundred nominations were submitted this year. Joe Roszak, Awards Committee chair, was quick to point out that the review process was very difficult because there were so many excellent nominations.

The NACPRO award received by FROGS is presented to "an organization that has responded in an exceptional manner by making a major contribution to benefit park and recreation programs or facilities." FROGS is a 501(c)(3) membership organization that



Bill Maasen, NACPRO President (left); Tatiana Lisle, FROGS Treasurer (center); and Aimee Vosper, FCPA Deputy Director (right), in Castle Rock, CO June 9, 2019 (Photo credit: Brenda Adams Weyant)

celebrated 25 years of service to the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) in 2018.

With more than 1,500 members, FROGS offers financial, operational, programmatic, facility, and volunteer support. Its major projects include the Garden Gate Plant Shop, Harry Allen Winter Lecture Series, art shows, glasshouse renovations, gazebo renovations, Historic House renovations, the Wheels Appeals (providing staff

NACPRO continued on page 7



FROGS Talk

Thanks to You, FROGS Keeps Green Spring Growing

Great weather brought more than 2,300 gardeners to Spring Garden Day, earning a record \$19,000+ to support the gardens.

Over 300 friends and neighbors enjoyed our June summer concert, complete with music by The Fender Benders, refreshments, and expanded kids' activities. Our mascot Ribbit made guest appearances at both events and infected kids (and your FROGS president!) with concert boogie fever.

June found FROGS and Green Spring on the national scene, too. On June 9, on behalf of FROGS, Treasurer Tatiana Lisle accepted the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials' (NACPRO) national award for Outstanding Support Organization at an awards banquet in Castle Rock, CO.

Thanks to the sponsorship by FROGS, Green Spring was a partner garden of the annual conference of the American Public Gardens Association, the premier national gathering of public garden professionals. Many FROGS members helped Green Spring shine as we welcomed 50 guests on a sold-out conference tour. Staff member attended the conference thanks to FROGS. Manager Nicole Conners and I presented on an APGA panel session celebrating female landscape designers, including

Beatrix Farrand. A new video about Farrand and her Green Spring landscape will soon be available for viewing at our Historic House on new A/V equipment made possible by your generous support of FROGS' 2016 Annual Appeal, History through Hospitality—thank you!

As you bask away during these last weeks of summer, mark your calendars for upcoming events:

- Saturday, 9/21—Fall Garden Day—Plants, Silent Auction, live music, bake sale,
- Sunday, 12/8—Gardeners Holiday—Festive open-house.

Don't forget about that 10% FROGS discount at the Garden Gate Plant Shop—fall is the best time for planting!

What's next? Interested in doing more?

- Continuing staff hour reductions have forced Green Spring to scale back some programming. Please urge County and Park Authority officials to restore funding. Your FROGS board actively advocates for reversal of these cuts, but individual voices will add impact. Also, more requests for park bond allocations to Green Spring can only help assure a vibrant future for your favorite garden. At current funding levels, the 2016 Revised Master Plan vision for Green Spring won't be realized. Tell the Board of Supervisors what Green Spring means to you.
- Watch for a FROGS Membership Survey in the fall. We want to hear from you! You can also share ideas, thoughts, concerns, or kudos by emailing info@friendsofgreenspring.org or by US Mail c/o Green Spring Gardens.




Sarah Munroe, FROGS President
(Photo: Marina Marlowe-Wood)

FROGS Talk continued on next page

FROGS Talk continued

- Your FROGS board is exploring ways to better connect young parents and working professionals with our board work. Ideas? We'd love to hear them—contact us at info@friendsofgreenspring.org.

Sincere thanks for all you do to sustain Green Spring Gardens. May your summer ebb gently and may you dive into fall planting eagerly anticipating the renewal that keeps gardeners gardening.

Gratefully, 



NACPRO continued from page 5

utility vehicles), and ongoing funding for summer interns and seasonal staff. Since 1993, FROGS has donated more than \$2 million to support the park.

“I am beyond thrilled for FROGS to receive such an honor and distinguished award. It reflects their passion, support, and commitment to Green Spring Gardens and the Fairfax County Park Authority,” said Green Spring Site Manager Nicole Mitchell Conners.

NACPRO Award

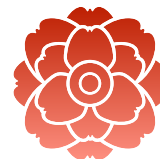
Aided by Great Weather, Spring Garden Day Sets a New Record

The sun was shining, the humidity was low, and it didn't rain. The lovely weather certainly helped make Spring Garden Day at Green Spring Gardens a great success. At the end of the day, the event made \$19,500, a new record.

Thirty-five vendors and the Garden Gate Plant Shop did a lively business, and two food trucks provided good eats. The Green Spring staff did their usual excellent work assisted by over 80

volunteers who greeted visitors, directed traffic, helped with plant pickup, and performed numerous other necessary tasks.

Thanks to all who helped make Spring Garden Day so successful!



Gardenline – Summer 2019

Manager, Green Spring Gardens: Nicole Conners
 Co-editors: Gil Medeiros, Ivy Sinaiko, Debbie Waugh
 Design & layout: Mindy Nash

Contributions? Comments? We would like to hear from you!
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Or write us at:
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Faces of Green Spring: Alda Krinsman

By Ivy Sinaiko

Did you know that we have a lawyer running the Garden Gate Plant Shop? She's more likely to give you advice on horticulture or wildlife than on the law, though. Meet Alda Krinsman.

Alda took time off from watering the thirsty plants in the shop to tell me about her job and her personal history. She has been at Green Spring since February 2017 as our plant shop coordinator. She spent most of her growing up years in Montgomery County, Maryland, and graduated from the University of Maryland Law School. Her specialty as a lawyer was commercial real estate. Before long, though, she met and married a Jersey boy and moved to New Jersey. Her husband became a Wall Street lawyer, and she soon “retired” to raise a family.

They lived in New Jersey for 25 years before coming back to the D.C. area in 2016. Alda's son and daughter are grown now, but she has two rescue dogs and multiple cats to keep her busy at home.

While living in New Jersey, Alda took advantage of classes at nearby arboretums and eventually became a certified master gardener (MG) in 2004. She was the chair of the MG greenhouse committee and loved growing and selling tropicals, coleus, and tomatoes. When she moved back to this area, she transferred her MG certification and is now affiliated with the Northern Virginia Master Gardeners of Arlington County and Alexandria City. As a master gardener, she chairs the plant clinic at the Arlington Central Library on Wednesday nights.



Alda Krinsman in the plant shop.

(Photo credit: Ivy Sinaiko)

Alda is also a certified master naturalist and is the Arlington/Alexandria Co-Coordinator for Audubon At Home, a program run by Audubon of Northern Virginia in partnership with regional organizations like the Arlington Regional Master Naturalists and Fairfax Master Naturalists.

I had never heard of this program and was fascinated to learn how it teaches homeowners and other property owners how to create habitats at home to support birds losing their natural habitats.

I often observe Alda working with her volunteers on Thursday mornings when I make my almost weekly trip to the plant shop to hold on to my title as one of its best customers. Her expertise is truly impressive; her enthusiasm, contagious. I also think of her and smile when I

look at one of my own flower borders that I previously referred to as a “deer salad bar.” Her suggestions on what to take out and what to plant have completely transformed the border and made me a much less frustrated gardener.

Alda particularly enjoys selecting plants for the shop and plant propagation. In the future, she would also like to emphasize providing more material for mixed containers, as preparing these containers is something she enjoys doing and teaching others to do.

Alda is a relative newcomer to Green Spring, but she has made a significant positive impact here. Alda, please don't ever move back to New Jersey!



The Importance of a Name

By Debbie Waugh, Historic House Coordinator

*“What’s in a name? That which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet...”*

— William Shakespeare
*Romeo and Juliet,
Act II, Scene II*

What’s in a name? A lot. It is how others identify and refer to us, and it is important to get names right: people’s names and place names.

The Historic House and the land on which it has stood have gone by many different names. In the early days, both the land and the house were known by the owners’ names. In 1853, the property was advertised for sale as “the well known FARM known as Green Springs (formerly Moss’s Farm.)” This is the first known use of the Green Spring(s) name. By 1859, the ‘s’ had been dropped and it was listed as “The very desirable FARM known as GREEN SPRING.”

By the 1880s it was again referred to by its owner’s name and identified in a 1924 auction announcement as “The Old Captain Beattie Farm.”

In the 1930s the name reverted to Green Spring Farm, which stuck until the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) acquired the property from Michael and Belinda Straight in 1970. The FCPA changed the name to Green Spring Farm Park, to reflect its use as a recreational resource. However, staff and volunteers received incessant questions from eager callers and perplexed visitors about farm animals!

By the late 1980s the site’s horticultural mission was firmly established, so, in 1991, “Farm” was

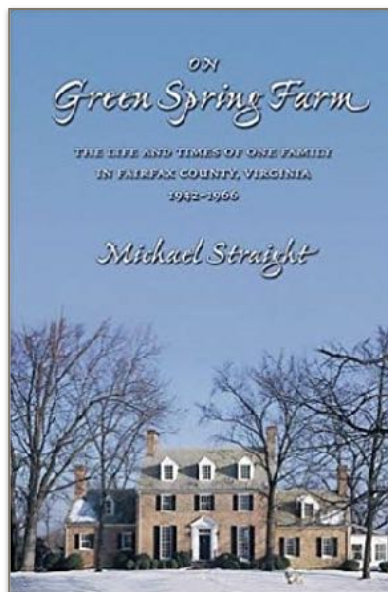
changed to “Gardens.” In the early 2000s, the name Green Spring Gardens Park was further refined to the present-day Green Spring Gardens.

The Historic House has changed names a few times too. It’s been known as the “Old Moss House” and the “Beattie Residence.” In early sales advertisements, it’s described as the “Brick Dwelling House,” and an 1840 survey plat of Green Spring Farm identifies it as the “Mansion House.”

Michael Straight seems to have been the first to refer to the house as a “manor” (he sometimes referred to it as Weyanoke Manor, after the neighboring subdivision) and the name “Manor House” was adopted by the Park Authority in the 1970s. In 1995, the Fairfax County History Commission questioned the accuracy of the name, which was historically a European term and hadn’t been used in Virginia since the early 18th century. However, in the interest of continuity, the FCPA decided to retain it.

In 2003, our current nomenclature was established. As the process of listing Green Spring on

the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places was nearing completion, former site historian Sherrie Chapman announced a new all-embracing name for the historic portion of Green Spring, which included the house, the spring house, and the



The Straight family continued to use the word “farm” when they described the property.

Importance of a Name continued on next page

Importance of a Name continued

Beatrix Farrand landscape: “Historic Green Spring.” And, because the house was never, in its historic period, called the “Manor House,” it became the “Historic House.”

Sherrie understood the power of a name, that incorporating the word “historic” more clearly defines identity and accentuates the historical significance of the house and surrounding landscape to our visitors.

Places like Green Spring are never static, and their names often change to embody their histories, to differentiate them, and to convey their mission, relevance, and value.

So, what’s in a name? According to Romeo, not much. But names are important, and it behooves us to get them right. After all, a garden by any other name is not as sweet as Green Spring Gardens! 🌿



In the early days Fairfax County used “farm” in the name of the park. (Photo credit: Fairfax County Park Authority archives)

Costa Rica 2020!

January 16– January 27, 2020

An exclusive tour to benefit FROGS



Join the adventure and travel with fellow FROGS to Southwestern Costa Rica and the Osa Peninsula! New and exciting on this trip are a whale watching expedition and a stop at an unusual and interesting archeological park with mysterious spheres.

Why sit around in cold and sometimes snowy Virginia when you can spend quality time in the

tropics? We encourage everyone to fly down two days early to avoid unpredictable winter weather delays ... the price of two additional hotel nights is included in the tour price ... and because who wouldn’t love being at a hotel with 3 acres of botanic gardens and resident tropical birds? If you want to start exploring prior to the official tour start, some extremely reasonable tours are available.

Costa Rica has more than five percent of the world’s biodiversity, active volcanoes, beautiful beaches and friendly people; it’s a country with no armed forces and has one of the most complete networks of national parks in Latin America.

Please contact Kathy Trichel, travel chair, at 703-750-2064 or ktrichel@earthlink.net. She will be happy to answer questions and provide the current itinerary and registration/deposit forms.

The Mysterious Cedars of Green Spring

By *Gil Medeiros*

Green Spring has a wide array of signature features: garden beds containing a huge variety of flowering specimens, the Historic House, the Horticulture Center, the gazebos, Turkeycock Run, and the Central Lawn to name a few. I like them all.

One of my very favorites, however, is the stately line of Eastern Red Cedars that borders the parking lot. They form a screen, permitting visitors to view the delightful plantings between their furry trunks and the parking lot but hiding the treasures beyond. One must exit the car and enter the grounds to experience those.

Let's look at what we know — and don't know — about these trees. We will also discuss some general characteristics of the species.

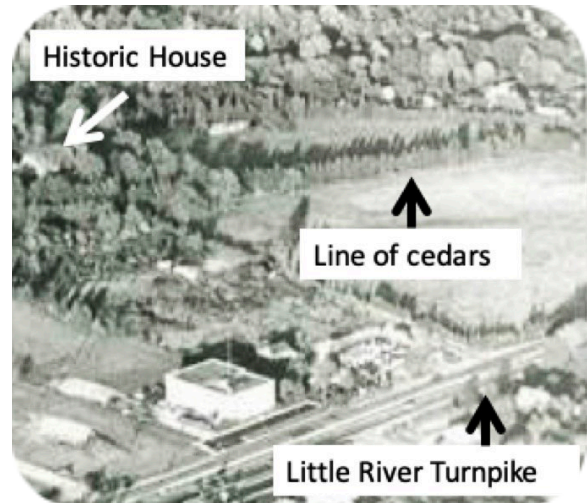
The trees were installed in a line, apparently to form a screen or fence, a function they perform to this day. It is not certain, however, what they were intended to obscure. At the time of their installation they simply divided a large open



The line of Eastern Red Cedars, now over 50 ft. tall, is one of the first sights for any visitor.

(Photo credit: Ivy Sinaiko)

field, which was entirely within the farm property. That the line of trees runs roughly parallel to, but admittedly some distance from, the bustling Little River Turnpike provides, perhaps, a small clue to the intent of the planting, but the “why” question is still unanswered.



This aerial photo dates back to the early 1960s. The straight line of cedars runs across the open field in the upper right of the photo. At that time the Straight family owned that entire field all the way to Little River Turnpike. (Photo credit: Fairfax County Park Authority)

According to Debbie Waugh, Green Spring historian and associate editor of this publication, the exact provenance and planting date of these trees remain a mystery. The photographic evidence, shown above, indicates that the trees predate the ownership of the Straight family and the garden designs of Beatrix Farrand in 1942.

How far back do they go? Were the trees planted during the ownership of Minnie Whitesell in the 1930's, or Frederick Segesserman in the late 1920s, or even the Duncans of the early 1920's? We don't know. These trees can live to 500 years,

Mysterious Cedars continued on next page

Mysterious Cedars continued



This photo taken in the early 1970's shows the Green Spring parking lot had yet to be created.
(Photo credit: Fairfax County Park Authority)

so 100 years is certainly within their lifespan. The trees have never been cored to determine their age.

When the Park Authority acquired the property in 1970, these trees were already mature. Rather than cut them all down, the County decided wisely to design the traffic flow, the parking lot, and some of the garden beds around them. That's how we arrived at the configuration that exists today. They stand at about 50 feet tall and are apparently healthy.

Even the common name of the trees is somewhat mysterious. Professional horticulturists and other gardening enthusiasts know that the Eastern Red Cedar is not a cedar at all; it is a juniper – *Juniperus virginiana* to be exact.

J. virginiana is not only cultivated widely as a landscape feature, it also grows in the wild. It is, after all, a native plant to Virginia.

For better or worse *Juniperus virginiana* is one of the great volunteer plants of North America. The species rapidly populates areas that have been denuded by wildfire. It also grows readily in unmown open fields and untended fence lines. The female of this tree species produces abundant bunches of berries that are a favorite

food of many birds. The seeds are deposited under fences where birds perch or along a flight path. The seeds germinate and grow quickly unless they are mown down or trampled.

Outside of Fairfax County, open fields that were once agricultural lands are often dotted with shrubs. These shrubs are most certainly *J. virginiana*.

In some parts of their native range these trees are seen as invasive natives. *J. virginiana* will thrive in all kinds of soil: wet, dry, clay or loose. Its main existential requirement is full sun.



This photo taken in the early 1970's, looks south from Green Spring Road (now blocked). (Photo credit: Fairfax County Park Authority)

These are good screening trees, more or less their use at Green Spring today. Farmers have used them for centuries as wind breaks, but they are also good as singular specimens if you have room for a 40- to 50-foot tree in your landscape. For either screening or specimen use there are dwarf cultivars that might be the perfect fit for your yard. 'Burkii' is among several cultivars that top out at 25 feet or less.

J. virginiana is seldom severely damaged by deer, according to the authoritative Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station.

There is an important caution. Beware if you or your neighbors have apple, pear, quince, or

Mysterious Cedars continued on next page

hawthorn trees nearby. There are three fairly common fungal diseases that involve these fruit trees and *J. virginiana*: cedar-apple rust, quince rust, and hawthorn rust. The fungus is hosted by *J. virginiana* and damages these valuable trees in the rose family. To mitigate this disease, *J. virginiana* is never planted within 500 feet of an

apple tree, and even that distance may be too close.

For more information on *J. virginiana* see *The Pros and Cons of the Eastern Red Cedar* at <https://piedmontmastergardeners.org/article/the-pros-and-cons-of-the-eastern-redcedar/>.

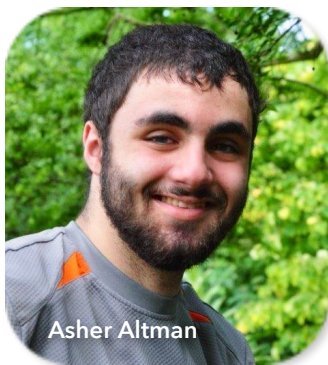
Meet the Summer Interns

(All intern photos credit: Kathy Trichel.)

Each year, the Friends of Green Spring sponsors interns who spend the summer working and learning at Green Spring. We are happy to have six interns this summer. The interns were chosen based on what they are studying and/or on their interest in varied areas relating to Green Spring. They provide much valued support to the Green Spring staff.

The Green Spring interns for 2019 are an interesting group, as you will see from the biographical information they have provided.

Asher Altman



Asher Altman

My name is Asher Altman, and I am a horticulture intern for the summer of 2019. I am a rising junior studying business and environmental science at Widener University. Being an

intern at Green Spring has taught me so much about how the Park Authority is run and the care that goes into creating a welcoming atmosphere in the parks. I believe Green Spring has done a great job at providing that atmosphere for the public partly due to the great staff and partly due to the generosity of FROGS.

I am a strong advocate for environmental sustainability and conservation, and I love being a part of a system with those values at its core. In the future I hope to create and expand opportunities like this for others by addressing environmental issues with a business-oriented approach. I have always had a passion for parks and nature in general, and I want to play my part in ensuring they are conserved for the next generation. In short, I am excited to be working at Green Spring this summer because I enjoy learning about the great outdoors at its source. And I am grateful to FROGS for being afforded the opportunity to do so.

Cameron McAfee



Cameron McAfee

Greetings, my fellow garden and nature enthusiasts. My name is Cameron McAfee, and I am a horticulture intern for the summer of 2019. It's been an interesting start tending the gardens and

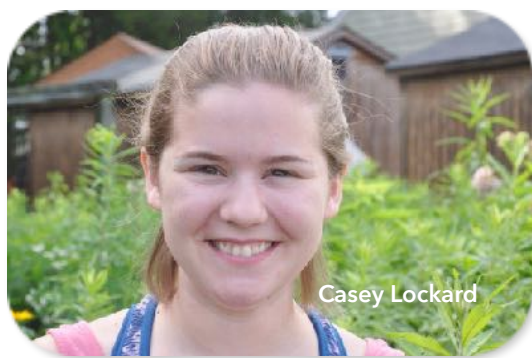
Summer Interns continued on next page

meeting countless new people. I'm from Woodbridge and am studying environmental science and history at Ferrum College. I have been landscaping for two years. Every day at Green Spring brings a mix of different tasks to be done that are already familiar to me.

I found Green Spring through one of my professors who recommended that I contact the Park Authority. I intend to make long-lasting connections with people and coworkers and improve my skills in this line of work.

In the future, I plan to operate my own wildlife refuge and rehabilitation center. I also hope to operate my own gardens and greenhouse one day. I've always liked to keep nature a part of my life from when I was young and first gardening to now, having more pets than most people and tending my own gardens at home. I wish to continue my efforts in the future and make a difference in the world.

Casey Lockard



Casey Lockard

Hi, my name is Casey Lockard, and I am working with Brenda Skarphol as the Virginia Native Plant Garden Intern. I am a rising senior at Washington College, where I am double majoring in Environmental Studies and Economics. I really enjoy working outdoors and with plants, and Green Spring Gardens has provided me with the perfect opportunity to do so.

This summer, I hope to learn more about how native plants impact the habitat around us and why they are important to our environment. So far, I've had a lot of hands-on experience identifying a variety of both native and non-native plants, and I've really enjoyed working with many people who are knowledgeable and kind. I can't wait to see what I'll experience over the rest of the summer!

Jackie Gillespie



Jackie Gillespie

Hello! My name is Jackie, and I'm the Summer 2019 Farmers Market Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Intern. I'm a junior at Christopher Newport University pursuing a BA in Sociology with minors in German Studies and Psychology. I'm also the president of a student-run, on-campus Farmers Market.

This summer I will be promoting the SNAP at Market program to food-insecure communities and planning events for National Farmers Market Week in early August. The SNAP at Market program allows SNAP recipients to match their purchases up to \$20 per market visit, helping Fairfax County citizens access fresh and local food regardless of their socioeconomic status. I hope this internship helps me develop a better understanding of food insecurity and

Summer Interns continued on next page

practice community outreach skills. I'm excited to be working on the SNAP at Market Program and National Farmers Market Week and happy to be on the Green Spring Gardens team!

Amanda Mason



Hello, all! My name is Amanda Mason, and I have been so lucky to serve as the Children's Education Intern this summer! I am a junior at Northern Arizona University and have completed my degree completely online. I

am pursuing a major in Parks and Recreation Management with an emphasis on Hospitality and Tourism. I am hoping to focus my career in parks on providing recreation and leisure services to people from all economic and ethnic backgrounds.

I have had the pleasure of working with the visiting field trips provided at Green Spring as well as participating in the planning and implementing of summer camps. What a joy it has been to spend the summer with children aged 3-11 and experience their enjoyment and growth as they expand their knowledge of all that Green Spring has to offer! As part of this internship I have also had the opportunity to learn more about the inner workings of the Fairfax County Park Authority and its employees; this has been helpful as I hope to work in government in the future. It has been such a wonderful experience working with the volunteers, staff, and visitors of Green Spring Gardens, and I hope to make an impact during my time here. Thank you, to the Children's Education Department for welcoming me as one

of their own and especially the FROGS for providing this amazing opportunity.

Gillian Barth



My name is Gillian Barth, and I'm the Historic Resources Intern, working in the Historic House. I'm currently a junior at Virginia Tech studying History and English, with a minor in American Studies. Over the course of my

internship, I have been reading and studying about Green Spring's history, which spans over two centuries.

For my research project I chose to focus on the women in Green Spring history who have been overshadowed by their husbands. My research paper centers on the wives who lived here, as well as the women who came to work here. One point that I argue throughout my research paper is that women, not just men, have owned Green Spring and made an impact on its evolution. Hannah O'Brien, Minnie Whitesell, and Belinda Straight either purchased Green Spring with their own money, or co-owned the property with their husbands. This directly refutes the point made in the report written by Nan and Ross Netherton in 1970, which states that "Green Spring Farm offers insight into the lives of Virginia gentlemen of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Its owners were men of learning according to their times, and men of affairs." One takeaway I have from this internship is that a strong female influence persists at Green Spring today. Behind the desks

Summer Interns continued on next page

Summer Interns continued

at the Visitor Center, in the offices of the Historic House, and throughout the gardens are diligent women, focused and determined in furthering Green Spring's historical and

horticultural significance. Aside from history, I enjoy checking books off my to-read list, running on my neighborhood trails, drinking bubble tea, watching "The Bachelorette" with my sister, and napping.



FROGS Book Discussions Begin!

By Susan Voss

FROGS Book Group I held a lively discussion on *Nathaniel's Nutmeg: or, The True and Incredible Adventures of the Spice Trader Who Changed the Course of History*. English author Giles Milton delves into the fascinating story of England's struggle with the Dutch to get into the lucrative East Indian nutmeg trade. The author focuses on the tiny spice island of Run in what is now Indonesia. Run produced an abundance of nutmeg in the 1600s. The little known hero of the story is Nathaniel Courthope, who died at the hands of the Dutch after trying to defend Run for the British East India Company.

FROGS' readers had varied reactions to the book, but all wished the author had given fewer words to the violence of the 1600s and more information on nutmeg and its cultivation. The group agreed that it was a fascinating story. None had heard of the 1667 Treaty of Breda which settled the conflict by giving the Dutch the rich nutmeg-covered island of Run, and the British the rocky island we know as Manhattan. Book Club I member, Liz DiGregorio, who led



the discussion, provided the group with information on nutmeg that was not in the book. She distributed samples of the spice and demonstrated a replica of the nutmeg grinder that gentlemen of the 17th century hung on their belts for easy access. She also shared her communications with the author, who was surprised but delighted to learn that gardeners were reading his book.

In August FROGS Book Group I will read *Of Gardens* by Paula Deitz.

Book Group II discussed *The Brother Gardeners* by Andrea Wulf in July and will read *Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World*, also by Wulf, in September.

There are several spaces in both groups, which meet on Tuesday afternoons in alternate months. For more information or to join one of the groups, contact Susan Voss at susanlvoss@gmail.com.



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Welcome to the World of Ferns at the Garden Library

By Pauline Perry, Green Spring Librarian

Ferns are one of the oldest plant forms, with many thousands of species throughout the world; and they possess a beauty that is timeless.

Explore the world of ferns in our Green Spring library. Our collection includes:

Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns, by Sue Olsen—In this comprehensive reference book, the author presents descriptions, habitat information, and cultural recommendations for more than 960 ferns, accompanied by 700 color photographs. Whether you are a beginner, a committed pteridophile, or anything in between, this expansive, well-organized, and lavishly illustrated volume will be the first place you should turn to deepen your knowledge and appreciation of the fascinating world of ferns.

Ferns, by Gillean Dunk—This is a useful guide to growing ferns for the home gardener. Ever since the Victorians first graced their parlors and garden grottoes with ferns, these beautiful plants have been a popular and enduring feature in homes and gardens all over the globe. The book contains a list of over 200 species of ferns, each fully described, and readily available from nurseries and growers. Take a look at the chapter on ferns in containers.

Ferns in Your Garden, by John Kelly—Of all plants, ferns possess a quality that is uniquely alluring. Their feathery fronds and cool green lushness perfectly complement the bright colors of flowering plants and enhance the beauty of shrubs. Also, they come in so many species and varieties that they will fit happily into a range of

different habitats: moist or dry, shady or sunny, acid or limy. According to the author it is the ability of ferns to enjoy conditions disliked by flowering plants that leads them to play the role of improvers of the garden.

Native Ferns, Moss & Grasses, by William Cullina—If you are pulling the garden together, this is a stunning guide to the indispensable background plants that turn flower beds into a landscape. What makes a true garden out of a collection of flowering plants are the ferns, mosses, and grasses that are the

verdant canvas on which nature paints its portraits. Included is information about North American species with specific instructions on how to grow and propagate them.

"Many such there are,
Fair Ferns and Flowers and
chiefly that tall Fern
So stately, of the Queen
Osmunda named ..."

William Wordsworth



Ostrich ferns make a great addition to any shade garden (Photo Credit: Gil Medeiro)

World of Ferns continued on next page

World of Ferns continued

Green Spring Gardens is blessed with a multitude of ferns of every size, shape, and color. How many have you spotted on your way through the gardens? Can you name them?

On your next visit please stop by our horticulture library to find any of the books listed. In addition, please browse through our used books to the left of the library entrance

where you will find many interesting books for sale at great prices. Remember that the library accepts book and gardening magazine donations for resale.

Library Hours

Monday to Saturday, 9 am to 4:30 pm
 Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm.



Perennial favorites The Fender Benders entertain the crowd among some of Green Spring's favorite perennials. (Photo credit: Fred Blott)

Fender Benders Give a Festive Summer Concert

The Fender Benders set the tone for Green Spring's lively summer concert. The audience had their toes tapping, and some members of the FROGS board were actually observed to be attempting what looked like a chorus line.

Children enjoyed a number of interactive activities, had their faces painted, and heard nature-related stories.

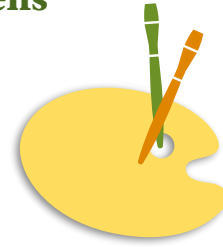
Healthy Fool served delicious sandwiches and salads, accompanied, of course, by the traditional complimentary cake and lemonade provided by FROGS.



There was something for everyone at the summer concert (Photo credit: Fred Blott)

Art Shows at Green Spring Gardens

Current and Upcoming



August 27, 2019 – October 27, 2019

“Sense of Place”

Oil Paintings – Amy Mann

Horticulture Center – Multi-Purpose Room

“All in a Garden Green”

Mixed Media – Botanical Art Society

Horticulture Center – Atrium & Ramp

“Nature from a Child’s Perspective”

Mixed Media – Shari McFarlane’s Students

Historic House

Receptions: **Sun, Sept. 8**, 1-3, Horticulture Center & Historic House

October 29, 2019 – December 15, 2019

“Garden Dreams”

Various Media – Springfield Art Guild

Horticulture Center

“Art Inspired by Literature”

Watercolors – Caroline & Erik Hottenstein

Historic House

Receptions: **Sun, Nov 3**, 1-3, Horticulture Center & Historic House

Open Hours

Horticulture Center

Monday - Saturday, 9 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm

Historic House

Wednesday-Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm

*The art you enjoy at the Art Shows
is for sale!*

NOTE: Please call the Front Desk at 703.642.5173 before you visit to ensure that the display areas are currently available to visitors. Areas where art is displayed are often used for classes or other events.

Gardenline is a newsletter published jointly by Green Spring Gardens and Friends of Green Spring (FROGS).

Friends of Green Spring, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 membership organization dedicated to supporting Green Spring Gardens and its mission to connect the community to natural and cultural resources through horticulture, education and stewardship. Since 1993, our members have provided over \$2 million and countless volunteer hours to support garden operations, programs and projects.

Green Spring Gardens is administered by the Fairfax County Park Authority's Resource Management Division. If accommodations or alternative formats are needed, please call 703.324.8563 at least 10 working-days before the event.

