

Fall 2011 Docent Warm Up
Formal Gardens
Donna Wiley

Plants with fall interest

Forecourt

Oxydendrum arboreum.....sourwood - stunning deep red fall foliage

Main house

Itea virginica 'Henry's Garnet'.....Henry's Garnet Virginia sweetspire - Burgundy foliage

Gum Alleé

Carya ovata.....shagbark hickory – The first tree to change color in the fall with golden yellow foliage
Fothergilla x intermedia 'Mt. Airy'.....Mt. Airy large fothergilla - blue green foliage turns red, orange & yellow

Rhododendron vaseyi.....pink-shell azalea - best known for the spring display of pink flowers but I think the fall foliage is gorgeous

Round Garden

Shrubs

Ilex verticillata 'Winter Gold'.....Winter Gold winterberry - apricot berries

Itea virginica [Little Henry] = 'Sprich'.....Little Henry Virginia sweetspire - a compact Itea

Viburnum nudum 'Winterthur'.....Winterthur possumhaw viburnum - The berries change from salmon-pink to sapphire blue and ultimately to black, then the birds eat them. It has red foliage in the fall.

Native perennials

Coreopsis (Big Bang™ Series Group) 'Full Moon' – Pastel yellow blooms by the RG lookout

Heliopsis helianthoides var. *scabra* 'Summer Nights'.....Summer Nights western ox-eye – golden blooms with red stems

Heuchera villosa var. *villosa* [Heuchera macrorhiza 'Autumn Bride'] = 'Autumn Bride'....Autumn Bride hairy alumroot – Planted around the Medallion

Panicum virgatum 'Heavy Metal'.....Heavy Metal wild panic grass - steel blue foliage, flowers in August

Phlox paniculata (Flame Series Group) [Coral Flame].....Coral Flame fall blooming phlox - By the steps to Flower Drive, short

Rudbeckia subtomentosa 'Henry Eilers'....Henry Eilers sweet coneflower – Also planted in the Forecourt. Tall plants with star-shaped pastel yellow blooms

Stokesia laevis 'Peachie's Pick'.....Peachie's Pick Stokes' aster – This compact plant is the latest blooming Stokesia and may re-bloom after deadheading

Symphotrichum dumosum var. *dumosum* 'Sapphire'..... Sapphire bushy aster - low growing with blue flowers in bed 158 by the Lilac Alleé steps

Symphotrichum laeve var. *laeve* 'Bluebird'.....Bluebird smooth aster - blue flowers in bed 158

Symphotrichum novae-angliae 'Alma Potschke'..... Alma Potschke New England aster - hot pink flowers

Vernonia lettermannii 'Iron Butterfly'.....narrow-leaf ironweed - compact with purple flowers

The Beds near the Lilac Alleé

Heuchera 'Georgia Peach' – peachy apricot leaves (my favorite so far)

Heuchera 'Marmalde' - golden apricot leaves

Phlox paniculata 'Jeana'.... Jeana fall phlox - This new introduction has a long bloom season.

Solidago 'Solar Cascade'.....Solar Cascade goldenrod – It produced a second flush of golden blooms after deadheading (under the pines 197)

I re-planted the Heuchera wreath and it should be ready by the end of September

- *Heuchera* 'Blackout'
- *Heuchera* 'Citronelle'
- *Heuchera* 'Miracle'
- *Heuchera villosa* 'Caramel'
- *Heuchera villosa* 'Mocha'

The wreaths on the tables on the Main Terrace: *Viola walteri* 'Silver Gem'....Silver Gem prostrate blue violet

Forecourt containers: *Physocarpus opulifolius* [Coppertina] = 'Mindia'....Atlantic ninebark - (Hopefully it will be ready, I cut it back kind of late in July)

Fall Annuals Please note: I'm just giving you the trade names of the Chrysanthemums

Round Garden:

New: Chrysanthemum 'Sparkling Cheryl'. Planted "green" in the first week of September for an annual hedge. The golden, two-toned flowers bloom mid-season in early October.

Hold over from the summer:

- *Acalypha wilkesiana*....copper leaf plant –tall plant with dark, wide leaves
- *Agastache* 'Bicolor Salmon/Rose (Acapulco™ Group)...Acapulco™ Bicolor Salmon/Rose Acaoulco Mexican Hyssop
- *Alternanthera* 'Raspberry Rum'....Raspberry Rum joyweed – Narrow dark foliage with rose blotches
- *Bidens ferulifolia* 'BID719'...Goldilocks Rocks® fern-leaved Bidens - yellow flowers in the annual beds by the pool. Derived from a native plant
- *Gomphrena* 'Qis Orange'....Qis Orange Globeflower
- *Lantana camara* 'Bante Rosse'...Bandana® Rose Lantana

Terrace:

Mid-September: Main Terrace Containers: Chrysanthemum Lindsay Coral (rosy color)

Early October:

Main Terrace containers: Chrysanthemum Sparkling Cheryl and Brunette Barbie (bronze)

South terrace beds: Chrysanthemum Spicy Cheryl (orange)

South Terrace center urns:

Calibrachoa 'USCALI4138' (Superbells series) [Tradename: Apricot Punch]....Superbells Apricot Punch million bells - planted with the grass *Pennisetum setaceum* 'Fireworks'

There is a plant on the conservatory terrace that always gets attention when I use it:

Hibiscus acetosella 'Haight Ashbury'. It's grown for the variegated foliage, although it does sporadically produce dark red flowers.

Have a good tour season!...**Donna**