Jonathan McElvery captured the essence of summer twilight with his image of fireflies created by using a series of eight-second images accumulated over 40–50 minutes.
SUMMER 2014

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Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

Summertime at Tower Hill is a season like no other. Our gardens come alive with color and blooms, but also with friends and families, as we welcome a steady stream of faces both familiar and new all season long. It’s my true pleasure to witness the delight of someone who has discovered us for the first time – their eyes open wide as they take in all we have to offer and they tell me, “I never knew this was here.”

While we are glad to be discovered, it’s just as exciting when I see that sense of wonder in the eyes of our oldest friends, too. Because our goal is to delight and inspire every visitor, every day – and this summer, whether you are visiting for the first time or the fiftieth, I promise you’ll find something new to kindle your curiosity and awaken your senses.

Start with the gardens themselves, overflowing with color: a thousand shades of green punctuated by dappled leaves and flowers in red, orange, and blue. With more annuals than ever before, bees and butterflies charm visitors old and young. Our vegetable garden is a summer favorite of mine – a true feast for the eyes that we hope prompts ideas for your own home garden. But more than that, it helps bring fresh, local vegetables to those in need, as the hundreds of pounds of produce grown there are donated to Rachel’s Table food pantry.

Beyond the gardens, we are celebrating with a great line up of programs and events for all ages – try something new or simply enjoy the flowers and fresh air. Our Twilight at Twigs music series is not to be missed with its great food, spectacular views, and live music every Wednesday night. Or, if you prefer your live music outdoors accompanied by a delicious picnic, we have a couple of family-friendly concerts on the Great Lawn just right for you.

Every summer, our newest visitors soon discover what all of you already know: that Tower Hill is so much more than a garden. It is a wonderful community of people who share a passion for plants and for nature – and all the joy and beauty they bring to our lives every day. I look forward to seeing you this season and to hearing what has most delighted you about this summer on the Hill.

Happy summer,
Kathy Abbott
Join us!

Celebrate the harvest, our heirloom apple collection, vegetable garden, and the fall landscape on four special weekends.

September 20–21 • September 27–28
October 4–5 • October 11–13

Live music, vendors, lectures and more!

www.towerhillbg.org
FOOD WITH A VIEW.

Twilight at TWIGS Café

Wednesday evenings through December 31

Seatings from 4:30 PM through 8 PM. No reservations required.

Enjoy small plates, light fare, and delectable desserts made from the freshest ingredients of the season. Dine inside or outside on the terrace (weather permitting), with its spectacular views of Wachusett Reservoir at sunset. Children’s menu available.

TWIGS Live Music Series!

Savor local food accompanied by music during our Wednesday Twilight evenings. Enjoy piano, jazz guitar, flute, and more every week. It’s just another great reason to enjoy an evening with us at TWIGS.
The perfect place to say I do.

TOWER HILL
BOTANIC GARDEN

For an appointment or to find out more, please contact our Events Coordinator at 508.869.6111 x125.
This spring, alongside birdsong and the gurgle of fountains, Tower Hill came alive with the sounds of children discovering the world of plants. Thanks to the generosity of the Alden Trust and the family of Frances Jacobson, Tower Hill hosted field trips with every Worcester Public School second grader – more than two thousand in all.

The Tower Hill field trip was tied into the second-grade Life Cycles curriculum, and classroom activities both before and after the trip reinforced the experience. Learning outcomes included understanding the life cycle of a flowering plant, observing plant diversity using a variety of senses, identifying basic needs of plants, comparing and contrasting leaves and flowers and learning how to use a hand lens.

Teachers were extremely pleased with this opportunity for their students to make real-world hands-on connections to what they learned in the classroom. Children enjoyed planting seeds (which they brought back to the classroom with them, where they charted and observed their growth), compared and contrasted actual leaves and seeds, and went on a scavenger hunt to explore Tower Hill’s plant collection. In this time of “nature deficit disorder” it was evident how much children still crave and appreciate the beauty and wonder of the natural world.

Frances Jacobson is a Dr. John Green Society member at Tower Hill along with her husband Howard. A lifelong educator and patron of the arts and humanities and someone who has cared...
passionately about Tower Hill, Frances found this opportunity to support a program serving the children of Worcester “a dream come true.”

“Tower Hill is like a second home to me,” says Frances. I have so enjoyed watching Tower Hill grow. I love photography and almost always have my camera with me when I visit the gardens here. I don’t have a favorite spot at Tower Hill – there is always so much to see – but I do admit being partial to whatever is flowering. Whenever I come there is a new surprise. Love of nature brings me here.”

“To me Tower Hill represents beauty, peace, an oasis. I love sharing that and have always enjoyed bringing my family here so they can experience it,” she adds. Now it’s wonderful to see all those young children enjoying it too – to them, the garden is a wonderful adventure and place to explore and they absorb so much.”

Frances began her career as a second-grade teacher in Newton and later helped create the Worcester Arts Magnet School, serving there as outreach coordinator and developing after-school programs using cultural resources. Frances also served as the first director of the Worcester Arts and Humanities Educational Collaborative (WAHEC), an initiative to bring cultural institutions into schools. WAHEC, later called CultureLEAP (Learning through Education and Arts Partnerships) was a partnership between the cultural institutions and the Worcester Public Schools, funded through a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Although CultureLEAP dissolved, its efforts continued through an education working group of the Worcester Cultural Coalition which resulted in a multi-year pledge from the Alden Trust, facilitated by the Worcester Educational Development Foundation, to fund grade-level field trips to eight cultural institutions in the Worcester area, including Tower Hill. Given Frances’ strong commitment to providing resources to the children of Worcester and connection to the program, her family pledged to add their support of the field trip in her honor. “The way this program connects Tower Hill to the classroom is especially meaningful to me,” Frances says. “Nature and beauty are gifts to share, and have meant so much to me, and there is so much of both here.”
NATURE AND BEAUTY ARE GIFTS TO SHARE... AND THERE IS SO MUCH OF BOTH HERE.

FRANCES JACOBSON
FLORAL FABULOUS

Spring bloomed much earlier in the Shop than the rest of New England this year – and it’s lingering much longer, thanks to the design finesse of Erin Heath and Rose Mattos of Forêt Design Studio, Somerville, MA. The duo conceptualized and installed the stunning “floral bouquets” currently brightening the Shop’s interior windows.

What makes these four-by-three-foot panels even more impressive is that the 1,000 paper flowers were made by hand. Erin and Rose started by choosing watercolor paper of various weights, which they then handripped to give the petals a soft edge. After curling the paper into tubes and dip-dying them in a range of colors, the multi-colored “petals” were then layered to create the tonal variation of foxglove flowers. The pair used a similar process for creating the California poppies tucked into the arrangement.

With their background in creating visual displays at Anthropologie stores, Erin and Rose create unique spaces, floral arrangements, and events for clients ranging from IDEO, MIT Media Lab, and Marc Jacobs. Their work has been featured in Magnolia Rouge, Domino Magazine, Martha Steward Weddings, and Design New England, among others.

We’re thrilled to feature their beautiful work at the Shop at Tower Hill on view through September. Want to try your own had at paper flower design? Visit the Shop and pick up The Exquisite Book of Paper Flowers by Livia Cetti ($24.95).
SUMMER SHRUBS

JOANN VIEIRA // DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE & FACILITIES
TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN
Oakleaf Hydrangea (Hydrangea quercifolia)
When the madness of spring subsides and the azaleas and peonies fade into the background, all too often so does the glory in an unplanned garden. But it doesn’t have to be that way.

Carefully placed perennials and the addition of annuals and tender plants help add color to the summer gardens. Yet, since specimen trees and shrubs are so vital to the structure of a garden, it is worth starting with them. Here are a few choice summer-blooming shrubs and small trees to consider to enhance your summer garden.

For larger gardens or the edges of a shady woodland border, Bottlebrush Buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*) is just the thing. It forms a large mounding mass up to 12 feet tall and 20 or more feet wide. It is rarely seen in ornamental gardens – perhaps because it blooms in mid-July when fewer people are frequenting nurseries. A North American native and hardy to zone 4, its beautiful compound leaves provide a bold texture and the large spires of white flowers last for a long period in July. Give it the room it needs as it will sucker and form large colonies.
Bottlebrush Buckeye
(*Aesculus parviflora*)
The beloved **Butterfly Bush** (*Buddleja davidii*) is in a category of shrub we call ‘cut-back’ or ‘die-back.’ We treat them like herbaceous perennials as the shrubs flower on new wood produced earlier in the season. Shrubs like *Buddleja*, *Caryopteris*, *Callicarpa*, even *Hydrangea paniculata* can be cut back to just a few inches above the ground in early spring and will flush new growth, then flower and fruit in the summer season.

*Buddleja* can present a problem in some locations with prolific seed production and offspring, so deadhead (remove spent flowers) before seeds develop, and give it a haircut in the fall. There are many cultivars of *Buddleja* out there – some are short-lived for us in our rich soils and periodically heavy snow cover but B. ‘Harlequin’ has survived at Tower Hill for many years in less than optimal conditions. ‘Harlequin’ is a particular favorite because its variegated foliage makes it attractive even when not in bloom. *Buddlejas* perform best in full sun and survive longest in soils that are freely draining. In areas where they do not die back they can attain heights of 15 feet and wide. Fortunately, some compact selections have been introduced in recent years, which are helpful for those of us with smaller gardens. Look for ‘Blue Chip’ on the west border of the Lawn Garden, this cultivar reaches a mere 3 feet tall and wide.

**Beautyberry** (*Callicarpa dichotoma, C. japonica, and C. bodinieri*) is another die-back shrub that we trim back to 6–8 inch stems each spring and then ignore until small lavender flowers
show up in July. The flowers are tiny and held close to the stems all along the upper half of the gracefully arching branches. When these flowers turn to fruit people really begin to take notice – the fruits are an unexpected and lovely purple. In October the leaves drop to fully reveal these glorious purple jewels. In most years the woody stems die right to the snow line so the shrub begins anew from the ground up each year. The roots are quite hardy – we have had C. dichotoma in the Lawn Garden for more than 20 years now, while C. dichotoma ‘Issai’ has succeeded in the Systematic Garden for many years. A white-fruited form, C. japonica ‘Leucocarpa’ is also quite elegant. The hybrid C. x bodineri ‘Profusion’ has larger berries that are even more eye-catching, but for us the habit of this one is less attractive – cut stems tend to shoot straight up and never achieve the arching grace of C. dichotoma. C. dichotoma ‘Variegata’ has a delicate white edge to each leaf; the fruit however is a dull white and so not as lovely as the species’ purple fruit.

The Blue-mist shrubs (Caryopteris x clandonensis ‘Worcester Gold,’ ‘Longwood Blue,’ ‘Dark Knight’) are abuzz with bees when blooms open in mid- to late August. In fact, they are so popular with pollinators that we are careful where we site them, making sure they don’t overhang paths or brush against benches. We always locate them in full sun and well-drained soil and cut back to 6-inch stubs in spring. We find most Caryopteris cultivars to be short-lived for us, humming along for a season or two then
Cary Award Winner
Sweet Pepperbush
(*Clethra alnifolia* ‘Ruby Spice’)
As the days heat up the heady scent of Sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) fills the garden.

taken out by an especially rough winter, usually one with either repeated freeze/thaw cycles or a lot of ice and heavy snow. *Caryopteris* ‘Worcester Gold’ has performed admirably for us – it is located at the base of the stairs in the Entry Garden adjacent to the parking area so it gets full sun and little excess moisture. In this location it even survives deep piles of snow. Our admiration of this cultivar extends beyond its name – the foliage is bright yellow all summer and makes a very pleasing contrast with the blue flowers. We have had good luck with the green-leaved ‘Longwood Blue’, and the ‘Dark Knight’, whose flowers are a deeper purple blue.

**Summersweet or Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*)** flowers in mid-July. As the days heat up the heady scent of Sweet Pepperbush fills the garden. The scent is powerful and sweet, emanating from upright racemes of white or pink flowers that occur on spreading shrubs that reach up to 8 feet tall. You don’t have to have a pond or even soggy soil to grow this native shrub, though it would be very happy if you did; however, it will thrive in good garden soils with even moisture. *Clethra* blooms best in full sun but manages to bloom even when conditions are less than optimal. In the cultivated border try the lovely pink-flowered ‘Ruby Spice,’ which is a Cary Award winner and so especially appropriate for our New England gardens. (Learn more at www.caryaward.com.) Other options include ‘Hummingbird,’ a compact cultivar reaching only 3½ feet tall, the variegated form ‘Creel’s Calico’, and a heavily flowering cultivar with elongated racemes of flowers called ‘Sixteen Candles.’ ‘Rosea’ is another pink-flowered form.
Other species of *Clethra* that make elegant garden plants are the Japanese *Clethra* (*C. barbinervis*) and Cinnamon *Clethra* (*C. acuminata*). Japanese Clethra reaches 18–20 feet tall and can be limbed up to expose its beautiful bark. Drooping clusters of creamy white flowers open in July and are softly fragrant. In the fall the foliage turns reddish orange before dropping to reveal the warm cinnamon, olive, and gray patches of bark. This is an unusual shrub and worthy of wider appreciation.

Cinnamon *Clethra* (*C. acuminata*) is a stunning plant in late summer when its creamy white flowers add life to the garden through both its light perfume and through the pollinators that drop in for a sip. This species performs best in a bit of shade in rich garden soil — it hails from the higher elevations of the Southeastern United States (Georgia, Virginia, West Virginia, and Alabama) — and will reach 10–12 feet tall. The ovate 6-inch leaves turn golden yellow in autumn and the shredding bark is a lively cinnamon color mixed with patches of gray that are most appreciated in winter. Our oldest specimen, now almost 20 years old, is located on the west side of the Education Center; younger specimens can be found in the Winter Garden.

**Harlequin Glory Bower (Clerodendron trichotomum)** is another underused shrub with some very useful qualities — not the least of which is its heady perfume in July and August. Beware it may seed and sucker and need a firm hand to keep it in a precise location. We grow it in full sun in the Systematic Garden where it flourishes with irrigation. A beautiful
Harlequin Glory Bower  
(*Clerodendron trichotomum*)

Rose of Sharon  
(*Hibiscus syriacus* ‘Lucy’)

variegated cultivar called ‘Carnival’ bears broad, uneven bands of bright yellow variegation on each leaf, but it seems less permanent than its all-green parent. Like our other die-backs, the Harlequin Glory Bower blooms on new wood. Imbued with a protective odor in leaves and stem, this shrub is seldom bothered by insects or mammals; in fact, the odor causes us to site it away from the path edge whenever possible to avoid too much contact with the malodorous leaves.

Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) is an old-fashioned mainstay of the summer shrub border. In more recent years smaller-statured cultivars – Lil’ Kim (technically ‘Antong Two’) and ‘American Irene Scott’ (variegated foliage and double pink flowers) came onto the market. Look for both of these plants, plus the full-scale ‘Lucy’ in the Hollyhock (*Malvaceae*) bed in the Systematic Garden, where you will notice the similarity in flower structure between the Rose of Sharon and its cousins Hollyhocks (*Alcea*), Cotton (*Gossypium*), Okra (*Abelmoschus*), Flowering Maples (*Abutilon*) and Winecups (*Callirhoe*). Check out a long-standing favorite Rose of Sharon called Bluebird (technically ‘Oiseau Bleu’) in the Entry Garden.

Hydrangeas have undergone a burst of popularity and many old cultivars have returned to favor after many years of being snubbed by the garden cognoscenti. There are too many Hydrangea cultivars to even begin to do justice here. Pee Gee Hydrangeas have undergone a burst of popularity and many old cultivars have returned to favor after many years of being snubbed by the garden cognoscenti. Add to these the newer cultivars like ‘Limelight’ and ‘Little Lamb,’ Quickfire (‘Bulk’) and ‘Vanilla Ice,’ and
Hydrangea paniculata 'Little Lamb'
there is undoubtedly a Pee Gee that’s right for your space. The Oakleaf Hydrangea is a personal favorite, although more for the rough-textured oak-shaped leaves and the dramatic fall color than for the flowers; examine them close up in the autumn borders of Pliny’s Allée. A bright-yellow-leaved, compact cultivar by the name of ‘Little Honey’ provides interest when not in flower, while ‘Snow Queen’ has large dramatic flower heads and ‘Snowflake’ charms with lovely double flowers. New introductions include some noted for the color of the sepals as they fade from bloom – ‘Amethyst’ is a Michael Dirr selection that goes over to a rosy color and dries this same shade; the flowers of ‘Ruby Slippers’ also turn a consistent and very lovely pink-rose.

Even after a haircut reducing the height from 5 feet to 15 inches, Indigofera amblyantha starts to bloom in June and doesn’t stop until a hard frost. Upright racemes of small, pea-like pink flowers stand atop thin woody stems attracting bees, butterflies, and curious gardeners. Close inspection reveals that this long-blooming shrub is a member of the pea family – each tiny flower bearing the keel and standard so common in this family. Expect it to reach a height of 5–5½ feet each season. In areas where it can overwinter it will attain heights of 10 feet. My first encounter with this shrub was in the garden of designer and horticultural tour leader Nan Sinton. Nan had trained her Indigofera into standards where they flanked a formal space in her zone 7 garden.
Bushclover (*Lespedeza thunbergii*) is yet another die-back shrub – the stems withering to the ground each year, emerging late in the spring and bursting skyward before arching outward and down into a waterfall of stems and tri-part foliage with a silvery reverse. In mid- to late summer the cultivar ‘Gibraltar’ becomes an arching mass of bright deep pink-to-burgundy pea-like flowers. Given full sun and plenty of room, ‘Gibraltar’ forms a 5-by-6-foot arching mound. *Lespedeza* bicolor ‘Yakushima’ is a short selection – only a foot or so tall; other choices include *L. thunbergii* ‘Edo Shibori,’ bearing pink and white bicolored flowers on 5-foot plants, and ‘Avalanche,’ a late-blooming white-flowered form.

I have written about the glories of the Seven Sons Flower (*Heptacodium miconiodes*) many a time – it is truly a shrub or small tree (18–20 feet in stature). Exfoliating bark, late summer flowers, fragrance, and pest and disease resistance make it an outstanding choice for including in your garden. Learn more about it at www.caryaward.com and look for it in our Lawn and Winter Gardens, where it will be aflutter with Monarch butterflies in October.

Chaste Tree (*Vitex rotundifolia*) is an unusual, low-growing, sprawling shrub that serves as an elegant groundcover in open, sunny spots. Its silvery, rounded leaves provide a lovely backdrop for the short clusters of blue-purple flowers that show up in mid-summer. The foliage and small branches stretch to 18 inches tall and spread 6 feet
Witchhazel

*Hamamelis virginiana*
Witchhazel’s *Hamamelis virginiana* chief beauty lies in its spidery yellow flowers, which perfume the woodland air in October and early November.

or more wide. You can find it in a protected spot in the Winter Garden – perhaps that’s why it survives and even thrives in this otherwise zone 6 garden when it is reported to be hardy only to zone 7. Other Chaste Trees, like *Vitex agnus-castus* and *Vitex negundo* ‘Heterophylla’ tend to be short-lived die-back shrubs for us at Tower Hill but equally beautiful in bloom.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to mention *Hamamelis virginiana*, or *Witchhazel*, an understory shrub native to forests from Canada to Georgia and as far west as Nebraska and Arkansas from which the astringent medicinal witchhazel is made. It forms an open, multi-stemmed shrub and can reach 10–20 feet tall or more. Its chief beauty lies in its spidery yellow flowers, which perfume the woodland air in October and early November. The flowers are often overlooked as the leaves are taking on their clear yellow hues at precisely the time the flowers are reaching their zenith. Flowers last for a long time during this cool part of the year and some specimens drop their leaves in time for the flower to have a moment of glory. Several variegated selections are on the market, including ‘Green Thumb’ and ‘Lemon Lime.’ ‘Harvest Moon’ drops its leaves as the flowers open, showing them to best advantage. Use it in a partially shaded border along a stream or woodland.

The shrubs and small trees described are just a small sample of horticultural choices that can carry your summer garden to satisfying heights – many more are on display in the gardens at Tower Hill and in public gardens and nurseries throughout the region. Make notes now and plan to add some of these outstanding summer favorites during the fall planting season. //
A Special Place
Cultivate a place of your own at Tower Hill by honoring a loved one with the commemoration of a beautiful tree or signature bench. Many families have celebrated the birth of their children, wedding anniversaries, and significant birthdays with a dedicated tree or bench in one of our many gardens. Tower Hill staff facilitate each dedication experience with a private selection tour, personalized plaque, and dedication ceremony if desired. We also celebrate those who have left us. The most requested preference is to place cremains in contact with the roots of trees or other plants. The belief – and reality – is that cremains contribute to the health of the soil and the added nutrients are, in part, absorbed by the plant, generating a “living tribute” to your loved one.

For more information, please contact Marleen Kilcoyne at 508.869.6111 x114 or mkilcoyne@towerhillbg.org.
“The fullness of delight in a garden is the bequest of childhood spent in a garden.”

These words from Worcester native Alice Morse Earle ring true for so many of us at Tower Hill. Whether we are visitors, volunteers, or staff, our love of the natural world was cultivated in childhood, by green-thumbed parents or an inspiring teacher who showed us the delight and wonder to be found in the garden. That influence stayed with us through our childhoods and infused our adult lives with a passion for plants, nature, and watching things grow—a passion we’re delighted to share here every day.

We are in good—and esteemed—company. This familiar theme resonates through centuries of writings by scientists, naturalists, gardeners, and outdoors lovers—many of whom have changed the way we think about the natural world through their work and writing. Earle’s own memories of her “flower-loving father and mother,” their family garden, and the gardens of friends and neighbors pervade her two classic gardening books, Old Time Gardens (1901) and Sun-Dials and Roses of Yesterday (1902).

Charles Darwin, E.O. Wilson, Christopher Lloyd, and Michael Pollan, to name a very and varied few, all mention early influences outdoors and in gardens. Jane Goodall’s latest book, Seeds of Hope: Wisdom and Wonder from the World of Plants, is replete with reminiscences of time spent outside—observing, listening, walking, drawing, writing—all skills that would serve her well when studying chimpanzees in the forests of Tanzania.

Many can provide such an influence. For Goodall, her mother’s patience in encouraging her to explore and to ask questions about what she observed proved invaluable. If not for a teacher who took a special interest in Scottish plant hunter Douglas Davis in his youth, the Douglas fir might have another name. In the book The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion and Daring, we learn that Steve Sillett, who helped pioneer the study of redwood canopies, and his brother Scott, who studies migratory birds, had a grandmother who shared her time, love, and knowledge of birds and nature with the aspiring young scientists.
Rudbeckia watercolor by Frances Clary Morse, August 1, 1878; Frances was author Alice Morse Earle's sister, Tower Hill Library has a collection of her drawings on loan courtesy of the Matthew Post family.

All Rights Reserved.
“Every child should have mud pies, frogs, elderberries, wild strawberries...trees to climb, brooks to wade, water lilies, woodchucks...huckleberries and hornets; and any child who has been deprived of these has been deprived of the best part of education.”

LUTHER BURBANK

Botanist, horticulturalist, and plant inventor Luther Burbank (1849–1926) recounts similar formative experiences in his writings, declaring, perhaps most famously: “Every child should have mud pies, grasshoppers, water bugs, tadpoles, frogs, mud turtles, elderberries, wild strawberries, acorns, chestnuts, trees to climb, brooks to wade, water lilies, woodchucks, bats, bees, butterflies, various animals to pet, hayfields, pine-cones, rocks to roll, sand, snakes, huckleberries and hornets; and any child who has been deprived of these has been deprived of the best part of education.”

Though Burbank’s gardens and legacy are preserved in Santa Rosa, CA, I like to think of this Lancaster native roaming Worcester County while growing up — and that those tadpoles and pine cones are ours as well.

Beyond family, teachers, neighbors, and friends, let’s not forget how a place - a botanic garden, a backyard plot, a forest trail - can spark wonder and enchantment in children and adults alike, proving that you’re never too old (or young) to be touched by nature’s influence and inspiration. //
DIG DEEPER

The Library Book Club meets one Saturday a month from January to April to discuss books about gardening and nature.

We invite children and families to indulge their natural curiosity about plants, nature, and science. Check out our calendar of programs and events especially for kids. Learn more at www.towerhillbg.org.

This little guy was found in the Secret Garden’s pool. On your next visit make sure to be on the lookout for him!
**summer @ the SHOP**

**ABOVE**
Elegant pottery inspired by nature from New England artisans:

1. Three bowl set by Sarah Ribeiro, Worcester, MA. $100
2. Queen Anne’s Lace Imprint by dbO Home, Sharon, CT. $21 – $96

**RIGHT**
3. The Hydrangea Jewelry Collection by Michael Michaud is cast in bronze directly from real Hydrangea flowers with antique bronze over copper finish. $62 – $162
4 Glass wasp catcher: Keep stinging insects from spoiling your meal with these simple, time-tested traps. Discreetly place hanging wasp catchers on a distant hook or tree branch. $13.95

5 These sleek modern cylindrical hummingbird feeders make functional garden art. Made of borosilicate glass, each feeder has a top loop laced with heavy-duty twine for easy hanging. $14 – $40

THE SHOP AT TOWER HILL
Open year round 9AM – 5PM
Tuesday – Sunday & Holiday Mondays
Wednesday until 9PM, May – December
Books, garden gifts, tools, plants & more.
Lately, different ways to re-envision the same notion have been plaguing me – how could one re-imagine something and in how many ways? For instance, I think using words in extraordinary contexts, maybe outside of the reader’s perceived comfort zone, can be expansive. Doing so even adds an element of depth to the conversation if the reader can also be expansive. And why not? Isn’t art about testing the limits, taking risks, seeing/saying something differently?

The same concept might be applicable to one’s garden: in what may be a simple pleasure, might one also find grandeur in purity of form? How to make a subtle statement through succinct understatement may be the key to horticultural happiness. Personally, I have perseverated on this notion for years (at least twenty-five.)
Yes, some people do admire the higglety-pigglety Yankee homestead aspects of our back yard— the clothes line giving the herb garden a little je ne sais quoi, for instance. On the other hand, we also have a large boulder begging for attention, if only there was time in the day to make the most of this geological feature. When is a large erratic not just a large erratic, for instance? What is it that makes a big contorted piece of boulder a scholar’s rock?

Truth be told, I rather enjoy the punctuating feng shui of our rock. Nonetheless, its position in the garden begs the question: why does this singular prominence have to stand out there cold and naked through wind and rain, snow and sleet and hail? Should I honor it with planting to enhance it as a feature in the garden? The confounding predicament here is that our rock stands prominently at the foot of the garden. That is why it yearns for care and attention and why it is frequently disregarded until some horticultural miscreant so besmirches it that intervention is required. But the problem is never quite resolved. Every year a host of band-aids are applied and the central issue remains. Who to consult if not a feng shui master?

Depersonalizing will not solve the problem. The rock remains steadfast in its prominence, really asking nothing other than appreciation—not just as a big rock but a post-Pleistocene reminder of what came before and shall remain extant far longer than I shall be here. How might I see it differently, augment its grandeur while emphasizing its simplicity?

Rock is the hallmark of the New England landscape. We revere our walls, stone foundations, cobbled streets, our hitching posts—all symbols of our steady determination to muster on. Yet we do not praise their source, our bedrock. This is not a silk purse/sow’s ear issue. Perception could become reality. Would that I were up to the task. Maybe a modest planting will make me feel more responsible, more artistic. Or maybe I should leave well enough alone.

John Lee is the General Manager of Allandale Farm in Brookline and Trustee of the Worcester County Horticultural Society. Raised in a farming family in Vermont, John has managed Allandale, “Boston’s last working farm,” for more than 20 years. Visit www.allandalefarm.com
Visitors to botanic gardens arrive with various agendas: some come to marvel at garden artistry, some to learn a bit about horticulture, and others just for a bit of fresh air. Me? I show up at botanic gardens to shop.

No, I’m no thief… I’m there to shop for ideas – specifically, for plants I could grow I’ve never seen or heard of. I believe it’s a common misconception that botanic gardens only grow plants we mere mortals wouldn’t ever find at our local nurseries. Indeed, most public gardens are a wealth of rare plants, but I find they also make great use of underused gems, gorgeous and garden-worthy plants too often overlooked at our local nurseries. Tower Hill, in particular, is a wealth of these gems. Keep an eye out for them on your next visit, and consider them for your own garden.

Andrew Keys is an author, blogger, plantsman, and member of the Tower Hill Botanic Garden Program Committee. He has produced podcasts for Fine Gardening and PBS.

**PHOTO**
Golden Hops (*Humulus lupulus* ‘Aureus’) can be found climbing the entrance gazebo at Tower Hill.
PAPERBARK MAPLE (Acer griseum, Zones 4–8)
While Japanese maple may be the star everyone’s looking for in this family, this small maple is not to be outdone. Ferny green foliage makes a fine-textured garden accent during the growing season, while exfoliating bark the color of cinnabar makes it a stand-out year-round. Paperbark maple grows somewhat slowly, so save your pennies and start off with a good-sized tree.

GOLDEN HOPS (Humulus lupulus ‘Aureus’, Zones 3–8)
If you’re a beer enthusiast, you’ll know hops for flavor. How about for color? This variety shines with new foliage in clear chartreuse. A wiry vine that’ll clamber up most anything, hops goes to the ground each year for easy cleanup.

FROST GRASS (Spodiopogon sibiricus, Zones 5–9)
A big grass with airy plumes later summer to fall, frost grass boasts deliciously architectural foliage throughout the growing season. In fall, it turns burgundy red. Bored with other big grasses? Give it a shot.

TIGER EYES® SUMAC (Rhus typhina ‘Bailtiger,’ Zones 4–8)
Tower Hill’s mature clump of this bold gold shrub is a reminder that sumac is a colonizer, best given room to spread out. That said, this Tiger is tamer than its plain green parent. Still worried it’ll spread? Tough-as-nails sumac makes a great container plant.
Welcome to our NEW Members! Thank you for joining our membership family in the past year.

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Ms. Gwen Jones
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Ms. Elaine Kateman
Ms. Lynda Kaylor
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Mrs. Martha M. Kelleher  
Mrs. Judith Keller  
Ms. Lynann Kendall  
Ms. Adele G. Keohan  
Ms. Laura Keprta  
Ms. Susan Keronen  
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Ms. Andy Lackey  
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Ms. Janice Lamberg  
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Dr. Kumkum Malik  
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Ms. Cecily Miller  
Mrs. Susan Miller  
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Ms. Gail Pickering  
Ms. Debbie Pourali  
Ms. Jan Racca  
Mrs. Annette Rebovich  
Ms. Linda Regis  
Ms. Lynn Riker  
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Ms. Christine Ringdahl  
Mrs. Dawn M. Ringquist  
Ms. Della Ritland  
Ms. Vicki Roberts  
Ms. Ann Robinson  
Ms. Elaine Robinson  
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Miss Mary Ann Ruscito  
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Ms. Barbara Scharl  
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Ms. Rosemary Scrivens  
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Ms. Rosheen Secor  
Ms. Mary Seymour  
Ms. Sally Shane  
Ms. Joanne Shea  
Ms. Patricia Smith  
Mrs. Diane M. Smoot  
Mr. Norman Soderberg  
Mr. Jeffery Sohl  
Ms. Suzanne Somma  
Ms. Ann Spanel  
Ms. Alexandra Spano  
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Ms. Kara Stoeckelmann  
Ms. Donna Stone  
Mrs. Patricia M. Strong  
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Ms. Dora M. Taborda  
Ms. M. Victoria Tantengco  
Ms. Jane Taylor  
Ms. Sandra L. Taylor  
Ms. Helen Tenney Smith  
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Ms. Lois Therrien  
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Mrs. Marilyn Walters  
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Mr. Kevin Welsh  
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Ms. Nancy Wigley  
Ms. Teresa Wilson  
Ms. Charlotte Wojtaszek  
Dr. Lawrence C. Wood  
Ms. Joyce Yablonski  
Ms. Jennifer Yates  
Ms. Ellen Yetman  

Student  
Ms. Mary Clouter  
Ms. Leah Grodin  
Ms. Celine L. Livingston  
Ms. Buffie Nault-Beck  
Mr. Michael Richler  

Dr. John Green Society  
LEADERSHIP GIVING CIRCLE  

Our Dr. John Green Society celebrates one of the founders and the first president of the Worcester County Horticultural Society. Dr. John Green Society Members support Tower Hill with a generous annual commitment of $1,250 and more, providing ongoing support for the Botanic Garden and echoing the values and ideals of this trailblazing leader.
Ms. Katherine F. Abbott
Mrs. Philip C. Beals
Mr. and Mrs. George F. Bernardin
Mr. Allen D. Berry and
  Mrs. Sarah Garfield Berry
Mrs. Martha E. Bigelow
Ms. Patricia E. Bigelow
Mr. George F. Booth II and
  Ms. Penelope Dewar
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Butler
Mr. Robert T. Courtemanche
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Dr. James D. Karadimos and
  Mr. William Beever
Mr. and Mrs. B. Anthony King
Mr. and Mrs. Allen A. Krause
Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence
Dr. Diane M. Leif and Dr. Alan Harris
Mr. Richard A. Leif and Mrs. Jean H. Leif
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen B. Loring
Mr. Michael R. Mach and
  Mrs. Stacy S. Mach
Ms. Marla A. Maykel Pyle and
  Mr. Richard L. Pyle
Mrs. C. Jean McDonough
Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Melville
Mr. and Mrs. R. Wayne Mezitt
Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Michie
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Milton
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Ms. Barbara L. Morse
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  Dr. Aisling Gaughan
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Mr. Robert J. Terkanian
Ms. Emilie Welles
Mr. and Mrs. Roger U. Wellington, Jr.
Mr. Wallace F. Whitney and
  Mrs. Robin D. Whitney
Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Williams
Mrs. Marilyn A. Zacharis
Anonymous

FIND OUT MORE
If you would like to learn more about supporting Tower Hill Botanic Garden, please contact Marleen Kilcoyne at 508.869.6111 x114 or mkilcoyne@towerhillbg.org

DR. JOHN GREEN
This oil painting of Dr. John Green graces the lobby of the Stoddard Education and Visitor’s Center.
Welcome to our newest four-legged members of Tails ’n Trails!

Dogs can join Tower Hill Botanic Garden, too!

You and your dog can enjoy walking our Loop Trail on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9–11 AM and Tuesday afternoons from 3–5 PM. Tails ’n Trails Memberships are $25 and $10 for each additional dog (up to three maximum). Please be sure to submit your dog’s current rabies vaccination information.

Brittany / OWNER: Mrs. Susan J. Allen
O’Malley / OWNER: Mrs. Cassandra Andersen
Mick / OWNER: Ms. Dawn Backman
Gracie & Bene / OWNER: Dr. Carol K. Bard
Nena / OWNER: Mrs. Lois A. Bennett
Allie / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Larry E. Blanchard
Champ / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Boucher, III
Benji / OWNER: Mrs. Nancy Cahn
Boone / OWNER: Ms. Barbara D. Carroll
Small & Kaya / OWNER: Ms. Denise Child
Maudie / OWNER: Dr. Brian Cloggett and Ms. Mallory Heath
Marci / OWNER: Ms. Joanne D. Cox and Ms. Aileen M. Cox
Hunter / OWNER: Ms. Cheryl F. Crouse
Dusty / OWNER: Mrs. Barbara J. DePalo
Albee / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Robert DiGregorio
Sundee / OWNER: Ms. Suzanne Dolphin
Izzy / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Alan Duprey
Nynah / OWNER: Ms. Donna Elmes
Marianne / OWNER: Ms. Dorothy J. Faherty and Ms. Virginia Ogozalek
Buddha / OWNER: Mr. Curtis Falzoi
Buddy / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Faulkner
Moby / OWNER: Mr. David F. Gauthier and Ms. Anne M. Mirth
Gus & Molly / OWNER: Ms. Cindy A. Gingrich
Toby / OWNER: Dr. William P. Gooley and Dr. Louise M. Garone
Ginger Cookie / OWNER: Ms. Marilyn Griswold
Zoe & Taz / OWNER: Ms. Carole A. Hilton
Barat / OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hodges
FIND OUT MORE
If you would like to learn more about Tails ‘n Trails, please contact Jessica Lang at 508.869.6111 x136 or jlang@towerhillbg.org
Join today and enjoy Tower Hill Botanic Garden year-round!

We are extremely grateful for your support, which helps the Garden continue to grow and reach further into communities both near and far.

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

• **Unlimited FREE admission** to Tower Hill Botanic Garden.

• **Early admission** to our celebrated Annual Plant Sale.

• Our **quarterly online magazine** *Grow With Us*, and a printed calendar of our latest events and happenings.

• **10% discount** and special *Members Only* sales at The Shop at Tower Hill.

• **Discounts** at participating nurseries, garden suppliers, and merchants. Find a complete list at towerhillbg.org.

• **Savings** on classes, trips, special events, and workshops.

• Invitations to special *Members Only events*.

• **Reciprocal admission** and/or other benefits to more than 250 botanic gardens, arboreta, and conservatories.

• **FREE gardening advice** through our HORTICLE, every Wednesday from 12–4 PM. Call 508.869.6111 x104 or email hotline@towerhillbg.org.
SELECT THE MEMBERSHIP LEVEL THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU:

STUDENT: 1 year, with valid school ID, $25
INDIVIDUAL: 1 year $55 / 2 years $100
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 1 cardholder, plus 2 complimentary gate passes upon request

INDIVIDUAL +1: 1 year $70 / 2 years $130
All of the benefits [SEE PAGE 56] listed for 2 cardholders, plus 2 complimentary gate passes upon request

FAMILY: 1 year $80 / 2 years $150
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to four children or grandchildren 18 and under, plus 2 complimentary gate passes upon request

DEEPEN YOUR COMMITMENT TO TOWER HILL AND ENJOY ADDITIONAL SPECIAL BENEFITS:

FRIEND: 1 year $100 / 2 years $190  BEST VALUE!
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to 2 guests per cardholder, plus:
• 4 complimentary gate passes upon request

CONTRIBUTING: 1 year $250 / 2 years $475
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to 2 guests per cardholder, plus:
• Complimentary subscription to a gardening magazine
• 8 complimentary gate passes upon request

SUPPORTING: 1 year $500 / 2 years $950
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to 2 guests per cardholder, plus:
• Complimentary subscription to a gardening magazine
• Tour for up to 10 guests led by a Tower Hill docent
• 10 complimentary gate passes upon request

LEADERSHIP GIVING SOCIETY:

DR. JOHN GREEN SOCIETY:
1 year $1,250 / 2 years $2,400
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to 4 guests per cardholder, plus:
• Complimentary subscription to a gardening magazine
• Tour for up to 10 guests led by a Tower Hill docent
• Complimentary Family Level membership to gift to a friend of your choice
• Invitations to two Dr. John Green Society Members Only events

DR. JOHN GREEN SOCIETY BENEFACCTOR:
1 year $2,500 / 2 years $4,750
All of the benefits listed [SEE PAGE 56] for 2 cardholders and up to 4 guests per cardholder, plus:
• Complimentary subscription to a gardening magazine
• Tour for up to 10 guests led by a Tower Hill docent
• Complimentary Family Level membership to gift to a friend of your choice
• Invitations to two Dr. John Green Society Members Only events
• Annual garden consultation by an expert from our Horticulture Staff

NEED MORE INFORMATION? JUST ASK:

PHONE 508.869.6111 x136
FAX 508.869.0314
EMAIL membership@towerhillbg.org

Tower Hill Botanic Garden
11 French Drive
PO BOX 598
Boylston, MA 01505
TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN PRESENTS
THE FAMILY LAWN GARDEN CONCERT

JENNY DEE & THE DEELINQUENTS
Sunday, August 17, 2014
1–2:30PM

Spend an afternoon in the garden with your family and Jenny Dee and the Deelinquents. Their unique sound brings rock and soul of the 60s and 70s to audiences of all ages.

Admission FREE for Boylston residents, Tower Hill members, and guests who enter with regular admission. Cash bar and snacks available for purchase. No outside alcohol permitted. Bring lawn chairs or blankets; this outdoor Lawn Garden concert will be held rain or shine.
TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN HOURS
Open year round 9 AM – 5 PM
Tuesday – Sunday & Holiday Mondays
Wednesday until 9 PM, May – December

Garden Closed: Thanksgiving,
Christmas Eve & Day, New Year’s Eve & Day
HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK WWW.TOWERHILLBG.ORG BEFORE YOUR VISIT.

ADMISSION
Members/Children under 6: FREE
Adults: $12
Seniors (65+): $9
Youth (6 –18): $7

TWIGS CAFÉ
Open year round 11 AM – 3 PM
Tuesday – Sunday & Holiday Mondays
Wednesday until 9 PM, May – December.
Serving healthy, light fare.

THE SHOP AT TOWER HILL
Open year round 9 AM – 5 PM
Tuesday – Sunday & Holiday Mondays
Wednesday until 9 PM, May – December.
Books, garden gifts, tools, plants & more.

LIBRARY
Open year round 10 AM – 4 PM
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
Members have borrowing privileges.

HORT•LINE
508.869.6111 x104
Wednesdays 12 NOON – 4 PM
Call in to have your plant and gardening questions answered by the Tower Hill Horticulture Staff and Master Gardeners.

FULLER TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER
Educational materials for teachers. 508.869.6111 x116

TOURS & EVENTS
Free garden tour Sundays at 2 PM
and on select Monday holidays.
Flower shows, classes, concerts, lectures, and children’s events
year round.

ACCESSIBILITY
Most areas accessible.
Wheelchairs available on request.

LOCATION & DIRECTIONS
11 French Drive
Boylston, MA
10 miles NE of Worcester.
Boston, 42 miles. Take exit 24,
Church Street, off I-290,
proceed 3 miles toward Boylston.

EXPLORE, TOUR AND MORE
THANK YOU.
Our 29th Annual Plant Sale was a great success thanks to our members and YOU!
Weston Nurseries is a proud supporter of Tower Hill Botanic Garden and your source for outstanding plants and gardening products.

93 East Main Street, Hopkinton
508-435-3414
www.WestonNurseries.com

160 Pine Hill Road, Chelmsford
978-349-0055

Rhododendron ‘Olga Mezitt’
2007 Cary Award winner

Azalea ‘Weston’s Sparkler’
2011 Cary Award winner

Two of our Award Winning Introductions

Golden Skep Farm
264 Linden Street, Berlin, MA
978-838-2471

Only four miles from Tower Hill!
(Take a left exiting the gate and take the first left onto Linden Street and the Farm will be about four miles away on the right.)

Open 10AM-5PM – Wednesday-Sunday
May 1-October 13 and Monday holidays

- Over 1,000 daylily varieties
- 300+ varieties of unique Hostas, including miniatures
- 80 varieties of Iris Germanica
- Large selection of New England hardy perennials
- Dwarf & Miniature Conifers
- Locally grown annuals
- Garden Mums and other Fall Perennials
- Gift Certificates available year round
- Garden Statuary

10% discount on plants for Tower Hill Members

Scan this code with your mobile device for direct access to our Website: www.goldenskepfarm.com