



Summer, 2022

President's Letter

By Anne Roland, FOBG President

We are well into summer, weeds and all, and



FOBG has been busy. In April, we partnered with online garden supplier BloomBox for a fundraiser. Our members and friends ordered their favorite spring plants, and Bloom-

Box donated 15 percent of the order cost to **FOBG**. Thanks to your great response, we raised over \$1,100.

We were also the proud sponsor of some popular summer events at [Brookside Gardens](#). The speaker series featured informative talks on modern landscape design, native plants, pollinators, and the history of Black gardeners, farmers, and growers. The concert series enlivened the lawn on Tuesday evenings in July. Unfortunately, Shakespeare in the Garden was rained out this year.

On July 22, we held our first New Member Open House. A group of 15 members who joined FOBG in the past five years met with Board members at

the Visitor Center to learn more about **FOBG** and share their interests. I gave an overview of how **FOBG** operates and emphasized the importance of volunteers to our organization. Brookside Director **Stephanie Oberle** spoke about the significance of **FOBG** support for the gardens. Thank you to everyone who attended. We look forward to seeing you at future events.

Speaking of future events, planning is well underway for the Fall 2022 Plant Sale, which we will hold in person September 10 on the South Terrace. The family-friendly Children's Day is September 17 and 18. On November 2, our Fall Membership meeting will take place at 2 pm in the Visitor Center, followed by a tour of the conservatory mum show. Details to follow.

Enjoy the rest of the summer. I hope to see you at an **FOBG** event in the fall. Don't forget to renew your membership in October.

Photo by Andrew Rein



Please note that the "News from Brookside" column will return in the Fall 2022 issue of The Brooksider.

FALL PLANT SALE 2022

ONE DAY ONLY: Saturday, Sept. 10, 10 AM - 4 PM

Open to the public, **RAIN or SHINE!**

8:00-10:00 AM FOBG Members ONLY.

10% Discount for FOBG Members.

(Not a Member? Come early and join at the Sale!)



- ◇ Choose from a variety of Perennials, Shrubs & Trees. Many native plants!
- ◇ Pay by Cash, Check or Credit Card
- ◇ Proceeds benefit Brookside Gardens
- ◇ Plant list and details to be posted in late August

Brookside Gardens Visitor Center
South Terrace
1800 Glenallan Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902



www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org

FRIENDS OF BROOKSIDE GARDENS PLANT SALE 2022

One Day Only – Rain or Shine

Saturday, September 10, 2022, 10 AM – 4 PM

Early admission to FOBG members (8 AM – 10 AM)

By Nithya Raghavan, Joan O'Rourke, Kathy Kircher, and Taffy Turner

September is fast approaching, and we are getting ready to host our perennial plant sale!! The sale is perennial in every way – this is the 26th year for the



plant sale since the inception of **FOBG** in 1996. We sell only perennials (plants/shrubs/trees) and **Joan O'Rourke**, our founding member, still plans and

participates actively in this event!! Even though we are dealing with the elusive coronavirus that is still playing peekaboo, a heat wave scorching the world, war and unrest, we all know that we can retreat to our gardens and the greenspaces around us to unwind and destress. Gardening as an activity surged during the pandemic and continues to be a fan favorite. Why wouldn't it be? It can be very rewarding if you can keep away the deer, rodents, groundhogs, aphids, thrips etc. etc. Whew!! On the fun side, you can see all the hard work and sweat translate to beautiful blooms, plants, shrubs, trees and produce and let's not forget the bragging rights to our friends and family and the WOW factor. Last year, we were SOLD OUT by 1:30 pm on the first day of our 2-day sale and hence our current one-day-only format. We will continue to have natives, pollinator friendly perennials, non-invasive cultivars of perennials, shrubs and trees. **Brookside Gardens** staff, Montgomery County Master Gardeners and volunteers will be on site to help you with your questions and decisions. This event not only helps you purchase quality perennials, but all proceeds of this sale go to support **Brookside Gardens** – the beautiful space that we love and treasure

in this county. You, our **FOBG** members and the public have enjoyed **Brookside Gardens** more than ever and now is the time to show your support of this beautiful space by participating in this mutually beneficial fundraiser. We will post the details of this year's plant inventory on our website: www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org at the end of August. The information on the plants you buy this year will be on our website until May 2023. This is in case you lose the plant tag and want to know that nameless plant (or is it a weed?) that is growing in your garden - like the cheerful bloom on the left which is *Echinacea* 'Fiery Meadow Mama' from plant sale 2020! We are purchasing fully grown quality plants again for the sale this year. The prices of the plants may be up by a few dollars compared to last year since, just like everything else, plant costs have gone up. However, you can be sure that you will be getting great plants at prices comparable or lower than retail nurseries. People had to wait in long lines last year due to the popularity of the event. Therefore, there will also be other changes to our plant sale – separate lines for smaller vs. larger purchases, credit card transactions through the Square portal and separate lines for cash and checks. We also hope to have larger quantities of plants so that we don't run out (if possible). Although we cannot make everything perfect and everyone happy, we listened to you and will strive to do our best and bring quality perennials for your garden. **See you on September 10th!**

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow –**Audrey Hepburn**

STROLLS FOR WELL BEING

A wellness program offered at Brookside Gardens

Enrollment for Fall 2022 will begin on August 15 ([CLICK HERE TO ENROLL](#))

Connect with and care for your inner self through the **Strolls for Well-Being**, an evidence-based program that promotes emotional healing and wellness through connection to nature. Over the course of eight weeks, you will complete twelve walks individually in **Brookside Gardens**, on your own schedule and with a beautiful full-color, 110-page journal as your guide. Each walk has its own theme, reflected in the journal with readings and writing prompts encouraging you to slow down, be present, and look inward. Those struggling with difficulty, stress, or transition may particularly benefit. Dates listed are for group meetings at the beginning, middle, and end of the program, where you will receive important information/materials and share insights with other participants (before registering, please be sure that you can commit to attending all three sessions). [For more details please follow this LINK](#) OR see **page 15** of the Fall 2022-Winter 2023 Cultivate magazine.

Note: *Strolls for Well-Being* and accompanying materials were created by mental health professionals, but **Brookside Gardens is not a mental health service provider.**



Garden Guardian

By Dr. Dick Hammerschlag, Master Gardener, Howard County

Frenetic Phenology

OK, so we all know about climate change and that it is causing an upward shift in temperatures over the long run. What we want to be thinking about is if we can see any effects on our gardens here in the Washington, D.C. area.

We can start off with casual observations. Does it seem like some plants are appearing or flowering earlier in the season than they used to? For example, it seems to me that crepe myrtles, at least some cultivars, are blooming much earlier – like early July. I can remember times when it was hard to grow crepe myrtles here. They were on the edge of hardiness. Now instead of being pretty much late summer bloomers, you can see some in bloom from July into September. Some of this has to do with breeding, but much is a result of a warmer climate. One might now be saying similar things about camellias – all doing better here whether the spring or fall types (*Sasanqua/Japonica*). Other observations concern butterflies. It seems to us at home, that in previous years, swallowtail population peak coincided with *Liliums*. We had swarms of them on our local lilies. But this year, the lilies were almost past before we saw swallowtails, who then seemed to congregate on a hibiscus. So fortunately for them (swallowtails), they are generalists and can survive by feeding on a number of different plants. But consider the impact had they been specialists on lilies! Sometimes, we can see other impacts from shifting dates (changes in phenology). Christmas roses (hellebores) bloomed early only to be caught in a hard freeze and browned out. Maybe if they had started blooming a bit later the worst freezes would have passed. Similarly, we had maple saplings that

flushed early only to have their young leaves frozen. One died and the other did flush again later. Point is, it is quite possible to keep an eye on the garden and actually see some things changing – at least in the short term.

Even better, though, than casual observation is note taking and keeping. Wife Freddi keeps notes as to when her epimediums and hostas emerge and flower. Interestingly, one might have expected them to emerge earlier this year. However, counter intuitively, the hostas this year (she showed me data on 18 varieties) bloomed about a week later. Well, that's a fact – maybe we can surmise that for hosta blooming, a cooler and wetter spring/summer trumped over global warming this year.

Well, we could go on with this sort of thing and hopefully you all have observations and notes of your own relating to climate change/global warming. Climate biology is in front of us and likely here to stay. What is soooooo striking about the current pattern is that it is happening at a very fast rate. There have been numerous climate shifts in the past, but most under long enough time periods for organisms to evolve, adapt, move and hopefully survive. The few cataclysmic episodes during geologic times have led to mass extinctions!

If this topic intrigues you, I highly recommend you read: “**Hurricane Lizards and Plastic Squid**” by Thor Hanson (ISBN: 9781541672420). The title may be quirky but the narrative consists of a fascinating series of pertinent climate change scientific studies. Lots of fun and lots of ‘understanding’. Enjoy!

In this and future issues of [The Brooksider](#), we will provide a listing of upcoming FOBG sponsored events and Brookside Gardens adult programs. The list will be updated as information becomes available. We hope this will be helpful in planning how you can take advantage of all that Brookside Gardens has to offer. Additional offerings, such as children's programs, art exhibits and excursions can be found at: [Cultivate](#).

Date	FOBG-sponsored and Brookside Gardens Program Name	Course #
9/8/2022	Gentle Yoga at Brookside Gardens**	PBG0031 300001
9/10/2022	Yoga at Brookside Gardens**	PBG0031 300001
9/10/2022	Yoga Sprouts**	PBG0078 300001
9/10/2022	Full Moon Walk	PBG0002 300001
9/10/2022	FOBG Plant Sale ‡	
9/14/2022	Tai Chi at Brookside Gardens**	PBG0029 300001
9/17/2022	Children's Day** ‡	PBG0077 300001
9/22/2022	Half-day Mindfulness Retreat at Brookside Gardens	PBG0018 300001
9/21/2022	Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour**	PBG0003 300001
9/24/2022	The Nature of Oaks	PBG0067 300001
10/8/2022	Asters and Goldenrods: Autumns' Pollinator Banquet	PBG0069 300001
10/15/2022	Fall Collage & Mixed Media Workshop	PBG0074 300001
10/20/2022	Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter	PBG0062 300001
10/20/2022	Parking Garden & Sustainable Landscapes Tour**	PBG0058 300001
10/27/2022	Glory of Fall Garden Tour**	PBG0059 300001
10/28/2022	Exploring Fall Through Innovative Watercolor Techniques*	PBG0075 300001
10/29/2022	Shinrin-yoku: The Art of Forest Bathing	PBG0022 300001
11/2/2022	FOBG Fall Membership Meeting‡	

11/2/2022	Chrysanthemum Tour**	PBG0060 300001
11/5/2022	Native Plants for Winter Interest	PBG0072 300001
11/12/2022	Mixed Winter Container	PBG0064 300001

*** Program Meets Multiple Days**

**** Multiple Sessions Offered**

***** Early Bird Fee**

‡ FOBG-Sponsored Program



Suggestions? Ideas? Let us know!

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Enjoy Summer