

# Horticulture Newsletter

July 16, 2009

*August 6, 2009 - First Annual All-Horticulture Field Day  
at the Iowa State University Horticulture Research Station.*

You are invited to the first annual All-Horticulture field day to be held at the Horticulture Research Station on August 6, 2009. This opportunity will showcase research projects being conducted at the station in all areas of horticulture. Concurrent sessions will allow you to learn more about specific areas of horticulture and to network with others in the “growing” horticulture industry.

Special areas of interest will highlight vegetable production, apple, grape, and small fruit production and wine tasting, lawn and turf management, urban tree development, landscape design and installation, organic horticulture, and farm pond and surface water management.

For more information regarding this field day and Information on Registration, go to our Department of Horticulture website <http://www.hort.iastate.edu/> and click on *News*.



HORT  
CLUB



TURF  
CLUB

**New Hort Club OFFICERS & EMAILS 2009**

**New Turf Club OFFICERS & EMAILS 2009**

PRESIDENT: Amanda Snodgrass [asnodgra@iastate.edu](mailto:asnodgra@iastate.edu)  
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 TURF ADVISOR: Nick Christians - [nchris@iastate.edu](mailto:nchris@iastate.edu)

**HORT CLUB ADVISORS:**

Barb Osborn - [baosborn@iastate.edu](mailto:baosborn@iastate.edu)  
 Ann Marie VanDerZanden - [vanderza@iastate.edu](mailto:vanderza@iastate.edu)  
 Richard Gladon - [gladon@iastate.edu](mailto:gladon@iastate.edu)

*If you would like more information about Hort Club activities, please contact any of the officers listed above.*

*If you would like more information about the Turf Club meetings and/or activities, feel free to contact any of the officers listed above.*

## **AFRICA: OPPORTUNITIES**

For Gardeners, Farmers & Urban Horticulturalists

For information, contact:

Ann McLaughlin [[info@ngoabroad.com](mailto:info@ngoabroad.com)]



We need your skills in Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Cameroon & Sierra Leone!

1. Work with Congolese refugees who had to flee their farms and now struggle to recreate a new life & urban farm in Uganda.
2. Kenya: help the AIDS orphanage feed itself & become food sufficient.
3. Transform the slums of Nairobi from a wasteland to a fertile food source. People well versed in sustainability, urban horticulture, planting trees & working with youth are encouraged to apply.
4. Fisher folk in Ghana whose kids were abducted into child labor, are now taking up the hoe, because it is cheaper to grow your food than to buy it. Come teach them what you know of how to coax the seed from the soil.
5. Cameroon has huge, tropical gardens/farms but is eager to learn these things:
  - a. composting & how to enrich the soil
  - b. rainwater harvesting (so women do not always have to fetch water!)
  - c. how to earn income from farming. Many of the villagers that we visited, have fertile soil, good rain and sun, but live on less than \$2/day.
  - d. Easier ways to clear the land and animal husbandry.
  - e. Organizing as a farmer's cooperative
6. Gulu was devastated by the Lord's Resistance Army. Kids were abducted and forced to fight or become "wives". Gulu is healing and quite quiet. The biggest danger now is crossing the street. Our partners in Gulu ask for farmers, especially dairy farmers; and volunteers that know both gardening and the nutrition a garden yields.
7. Sierra Leone also experienced a brutal civil war. It is also quiet. Sierra Leone is one of the poorest nations in Africa so:
  - a. Can you help farmers expand from subsistence farming to include cash crops?
  - b. To cultivate fish farming to increase protein intake?
  - c. To divert swamp water to irrigation ditches


*We need you!*

Interested? Please READ the entire NGOabroad website:

If interested, answer Questionnaire & embed with resume in email to [info@NGOabroad.com](mailto:info@NGOabroad.com)

NGOabroad is a unique service that provides frugal, customized international volunteer options and helps people enter international humanitarian work. <http://www.ngoabroad.com/>

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**Summer Hours** . . . Office hours for the Department of Horticulture are 7:30 AM thru 4:00 PM. We will resume our regular hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM again in August.

**Construction has begun in our Conference Room** to bring it up to date and make it more functional. The goal is that work will be completed by the time classes start in August.

**A Special THANK YOU . . . from Arlen Patrick**


*Thank you to everyone for my surprise retirement party on 6/6/09. I thought I was helping with an ISU Foundation board retreat dinner and was completely unaware the event was for me. The disadvantage of being surprised is that my thoughts were not prepared and I now wish I had done and said many more things. I should have introduced my family and friends to the department and given an individual thank you to all those special people who have been so instrumental in supporting me through the last 37 years at ISU.*

*Special thanks to: Jeff Iles for giving me guidance to chart my own career course and for supporting my choices; Kim and Mike Gaul for their close friendship and professional development help; the office staff of June, Colleen and Cathy for laughing at my old jokes and sharing my family stories and pictures; Loren Stephens and Dick Gladon for greenhouse operation guidance and close friendship; Hank Taber, Shui-Zhang Fei, Rose Rollenhagen, Gail Nonnecke, Cindy Haynes, Bill Graves, James Schrader and Rajeev Arora are all friends who worked with me in setting up their class and research greenhouse projects; Ann Marie VanDerZanden, Kathleen Delate, Nick Christians, Paul Domoto, David Hannapel, James Romer, Dennis Portz, David Minner, Richard Jauron, Barb Osborn and Mark Hoffmann whom I could always count on as good friends and associates; Emilie Justen and all of the other graduate students who treated me as one of them; Tori Postel who is like family; and who could be better to succeed me in the greenhouse than Peter Lawlor.*

*Thank you to everyone for planning, supporting and attending my retirement party at Reiman Gardens. I was completely surprised and overwhelmed. Your generous gift of the framed photos of Jack Trice Stadium now hangs in our den – a very nice reminder of my years at Iowa State.*

*Thanks to all. It's been a great time. I will miss the people of this department very much.*


*Arlen*



Information from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences . . .

An online version of the English Placement Test (EPT) is now available for off-campus (distance education) students. The EPT is generally required of all non-native English speaking ISU students prior to their first semester at ISU. More information on the English Placement Test and exemption categories is available at [www.public.iastate.edu/~apling/eptfaq.html](http://www.public.iastate.edu/~apling/eptfaq.html). To arrange to take the EPT, please email [ept@iastate.edu](mailto:ept@iastate.edu) -OR- contact Yoo Ree Chung at [yrychung@iastate.edu](mailto:yrychung@iastate.edu) or 294-6398.

An online section of English 101D is being offered this summer 2009 for those non-native English speaking ISU students who need to improve their English language skills. The course was just added and is open for registration via AccessPlus.



\*\*\*\*\*HORTICULTURE TRAVEL\*\*\*\*\*



**Travels (then, now, and upcoming) . . .**

**Christopher Blume** – (07/25/09 to 08/01/09) to Santiago, Chile – to present research at International Turfgrass Research Conference at Santiago, Chile

**Nick Christians** – (07/25/09 to 08/01/09) to Santiago, CHILI – to present research results at International Turfgrass Research Conference

**Kathleen Delate** – (08/11/09 to 08/22/09) to Entebbe, UGANDA – Conduct organic research survey and visit organic amaranth project at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda.

**Richard Gladon** – (07/10/09 to 07/14/09) to Columbus, OH – to attend a Water Mgmt. Workshop and to attend the general education sessions & trade show at the Ohio Florists' Association 2009 short course at Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus.

**Michael Graham** – (05/13/09 to 08/07/09) to Entebbe, UGANDA – Makerere University researchers on Master of Science research project as well as other researchers on Organic agriculture in Africa.

**William Graves** – (08/02/09 to 08/06/09) to Albuquerque, NM – Attend Ecological Society of America conference at Albuquerque, NM.

(12/10/09 to 12/11/09) to Stanford, CA – to collect data for research.

(12/25/09 to 01/05/10) to Stanford, CA – to collect research data at Stanford, CA

**Cynthia Haynes** – (07/20/09 to 07/28/09) to St. Louis, MO – to attend Perennial Plant Association meeting and to present @ ASHS (American Society for Hort Science) Conference.

**Andrew Hoiberg** – (07/25/09 to 08/01/09) to Santiago, CHILE – to present research at the International Turfgrass Research Society meetings.

**Peter Lawlor** – (07/09/09 to 07/15/09) to Columbus, OH – to learn about the latest methods in controlled environment management, interact with industry and peer representatives and specifically learn about water management.

**Olivia Lenahan** – (08/02/09 to 08/06/09) to Albuquerque, NM – Present data at meeting of Ecological Society of America Conference.

**Gail Nonnecke** – (06/20/09 to 07/17/09) to Entebbe, UGANDA – Co-lead student travel course.

(07/24/09 to 07/28/09) to St. Louis, MO – to give invited presentation at the American Soc. for Hort Sci (ASHS).

**Bryan Peterson** – (08/02/09 to 08/06/09) to Albuquerque, NM – Present data at mtg. of Ecological Society of America Conference.

**Michael Reinert** – (07/25/09 to 07/28/09) to St. Louis, MO – to present research @ ASHS (American Society for Hort Science) Conference

**Loren Stephens** – (07/25/09 to 07/28/09) to St. Louis, MO – Travel to present research results at annual meeting of American Society of Horticulture Science.

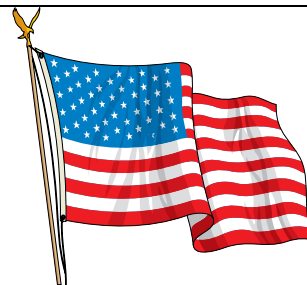
**Henry Taber** – (07/13/09 to 07/16/09) to State College, PA – to attend and present research paper at the American Society for Plasticulture National Conference.

**Ann Marie VanDerZanden** – (07/24/09 to 07/28/09) to St. Louis, MO – to participate in the American Society Horticulture Science annual meeting.

**INFORMATION ON JOBS**

*There is a variety of job possibilities listed here --  
Permanent, temporary, part-time, full-time,  
student jobs, local, non-local, etc. . . . Check it out!*

*Job announcements are posted in the student reading room and in the  
Horticulture Office if you are interested in checking in more detail.  
Some jobs that are listed this week are:*



**Botanist / Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service – Nationwide (Announcement #OCR-0430-911-ARRA-D . . . (16) temporary, fulltime positions. Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree in botany, or basic plant science. Duties:** Performs duties such as surveying for threatened, endangered, sensitive, and rare

plants, recommending mitigation measures, monitoring selected populations, or developing conservation plans. Prepares reports, analyses, and biological evaluations and assessments of botanical resources or conditions. Provides advice, guidance, and information as a member of an interdisciplinary team or to other agencies, state and local governments, and the public on botanical resource issues. Studies, inventories, and investigates botanical and ecological conditions in support of botanical projects. Apply on website: <http://www.avuecentral.com/vacancy.html?ref=HSJLS> Contact: ASC-HCM Staffing, Phone: 877-372-7248 / Fax: 253-573-9869 / E-mail: [fsjobs@fs.fed.us](mailto:fsjobs@fs.fed.us)

**Biological Science Technician (Plants) / Dept. of Agriculture / Forest Service – Nationwide (Announcement #OCR-0404-4-PLNT-ARRA-D . . .** (16) temporary, full-time positions. Qualifying experience for the GS-4 level includes six months general experience that demonstrates the applicant's ability to perform the work of the position or that provided familiarity with the subject matter of the occupation AND 6 months specialized experience at the GS-3 level that is directly related to the line of work of the position to be filled and which has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position. Duties: This position is located on a Forest Service unit and is responsible for providing technical support to the plants/botany management program. Uses a variety of specialized tools, equipment, and materials to carry out procedures, reports, diagrams, charts, graphs, etc. Apply on website: <http://www.avuecentral.com/vacancy.html?ref=RKXWU> Contact: ASC-HCM Staffing / Phone: 877-372-7248 / Fax: 253-573-9869 / E-mail: [fsjobs@fs.fed.us](mailto:fsjobs@fs.fed.us)

**Biodiversity Conservation Coordinator / Northwest Service Academy / Gresham, OR . . .** A temporary (dates: September 14, 2009 – August 17, 2010), full-time position. Qualifications: The ability to work proactively, somewhat independently, and in an organized manner. Ability to communicate and interact in a positive, professional manner with various populations such as: project partner(s), colleagues, community volunteers, students, and the general public. A minimum of basic Pacific Northwest native plant ID skills necessary, though training is available to further refine plant ID skills. Duties: Efforts will focus on invasive removal and native plant installation. About 20% of the BCC's time will be devoted to working with private landowners and agencies to implement our Backyard Wildlife Habitat Certification program, encouraging them to incorporate wildlife friendly naturescaping techniques in their own backyards. Apply: Send resume, cover letter, and 3 references to: Contact Laura Guderyahn, Watershed Restoration Coordinator / City of Gresham / Phone: 503-618-2246 / E-mail: [laura.guderyahn@ci.gresham.or.us](mailto:laura.guderyahn@ci.gresham.or.us) / Website: [www.greshamoregon.gov](http://www.greshamoregon.gov)

**Buildings and Grounds Manager / Mass Audubon's Boston Nature Center / Mattapan, MA . . .** A permanent, full-time position with excellent benefits. Qualifications: Proven organizational abilities, strong written and verbal communications skills. Basic maintenance and carpentry skills, familiarity with HVAC systems, working knowledge of general home and automotive care. Experience with driving trucks, tractors, and working practice with general outdoor equipment such as mowers and other electrical equipment. Duties: The Boston Nature Center seeks a motivated and organized person to coordinate and conduct property, grounds, and building related activities along with budget management. Ensure the maintenance, security, and ecological management of a 67-acre wildlife sanctuary, as well as the maintenance (including custodial) and security of our visitor center (environmentally friendly building), several other buildings, and community gardens. Apply: Send resume, cover letter, and 3 references to: Contact: Boston Nature Center, Attn: Property Manager Search / 500 Walk Hill Street / Mattapan, MA 02126 / E-mail: [BNC@massaudubon.org](mailto:BNC@massaudubon.org)

**Sustainable Agriculture Educator / Land Protection Specialist / Cornell Cooperative Ext. Yates County / Cornell University / Ithaca, NY . . .** The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County and the Finger Lakes Land Trust seek a dynamic individual to advance farmland protection and sustainable agriculture programs within New York's scenic Finger Lakes Region. This position is supported by a joint venture involving these two organizations and is responsible for implementing conservation easement projects, working with landowners to develop proposals for farmland protection funding, and also developing and implementing educational programs related to sustainable agriculture, horticulture and natural resources. Practical knowledge of agriculture and conservation easements is preferred as is a BS degree in agriculture, natural resources, or a related field. Competitive salary and benefits provided. For more information, application materials and a full job description, call 315-536-5123 or visit <http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates/>.

**Assistant Trainee Spray Technician / Tournament Club of Iowa / Polk City, IA . . .** This position starts as a spray technician and could move into the Assistant Superintendent's position. Qualifications: Minimum two years association degree in turfgrass management; minimum two summers experience on golf crew; will need to obtain state pesticide applicator certification. Duties: Positive Crew Leader who is willing to go above and beyond customer expectations; Fertilizer/Pesticide Application; Golf Course Maintenance; Flower Gardens and Trees & Shrubbery. Contact: E-mail Resume to: [patfranklin@tcofiowa.com](mailto:patfranklin@tcofiowa.com)

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*The Newsletter is published on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month during the school year and monthly during the summer (2nd Thursday). Please feel free to email information to June that you would like included in the Newsletter. [vansickl@iastate.edu](mailto:vansickl@iastate.edu)*

