

## **SATURDAY, March 16, 2013 Spring Meeting – maps on the back**

Following our tradition for our spring meetings, we will have two events today with a catered lunch in between -- but with a twist.

### **11:00 AM sharp -- Herbarium Tour**

We will visit to the University Herbarium, which is a museum collection of dried, pressed plants that forms the foundation of research on evolution and classification of plants. One of the largest research collections in the western Hemisphere is housed at Michigan with something in the order of 1.8 million specimens constituting a world-wide collection. While we focus on Michigan and the Great Lakes, and also Mexico, our collections are quite deep for many area of the world. We are one of the very few collections in the New World that has sets from the some of the classic explorations of China for plants, especially rock garden plants, and represented are collections by Reginald Farrer, George Forrest, Joseph Rock, and others, and we'll have a sample for people to examine. Who doesn't grow something with the Latin species name of *rockii*, *forrestii*, or *farreri*? We also have for your examination collections from the exploration of our own western frontier, and also early collections from Michigan from the 1820's and 1830's that allow us to understand our flora before extensive settlement.

**12:15 PM – Catered lunch at the Botanical Gardens Auditorium [PLEASE RSVP by 11 March IF COMING reznicek@umich.edu (734) 996-0692 evenings]**

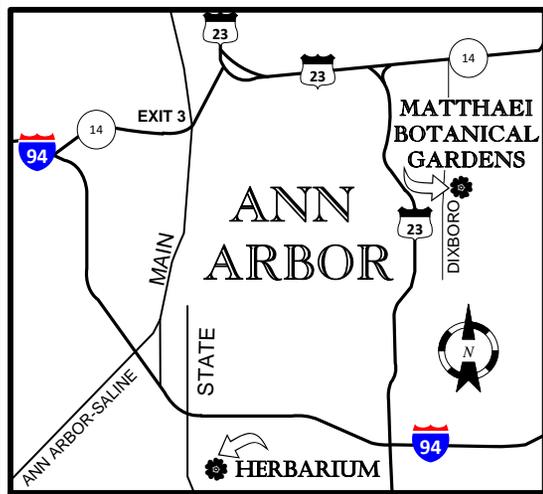
### **1:30 PM – Program: Peter George. The Evolution of My Garden**

Come see our National NARGS President Peter George speak about how his garden and gardening interests have evolved. Peter sends us the following biographical notes: “Growing up in The Bronx, I was always intrigued by the local flora and fauna, primarily ragweed, ants and cockroaches. Fortunately my grandmother, a Russian peasant who never learned to read or write, grew plants everywhere she could possibly manage. When my family finally left the city and moved to the suburbs, we started a real garden on our half-acre plot of land. I attended college, graduate school and law school in Kansas, where I encountered agriculture as a business, both legal (wheat, soybeans and corn) and illegal (marijuana). Migrating to Atlanta for several years, I started growing cacti and succulents. Then on to Massachusetts, where I eventually settled in Petersham, a small town in the north central part of the state, not far from the New Hampshire border, at about 1100 feet elevation. In 1996 I attended my first rock garden meeting at the Berkshire Chapter, where I found the people warm and friendly and the gardening interesting and challenging. I kept coming to meetings, became the greeter, then accepted the presidency, and had an 8-year run as newsletter editor. In 2007 I was nominated to the NARGS Board of Directors, but was defeated (along with Matt Mattus and Harvey Wrightman) by a trio of nominations made from the floor in Portland, Oregon. Two years later I was nominated for president of NARGS (how very odd) and was elected, along with Harvey Wrightman as vice president. My garden is now fairly extensive, covering about ¾ of an acre, in 7 different beds. It's mostly traditional rock garden, with one area primarily laid out for plants that don't need a lot of sun. My presentation is titled *The Evolution of My Garden, or Why My Garden Proves that there is No Such Thing as Intelligent Design*. Yes, it's supposed to be fun. Here's a picture of one bed, including *Gentiana acaulis* and *Astragalus angustifolius* ‘Fred Case.’



# SPRING MEETING: HERBARIUM TOUR, CATERED LUNCH & LECTURE

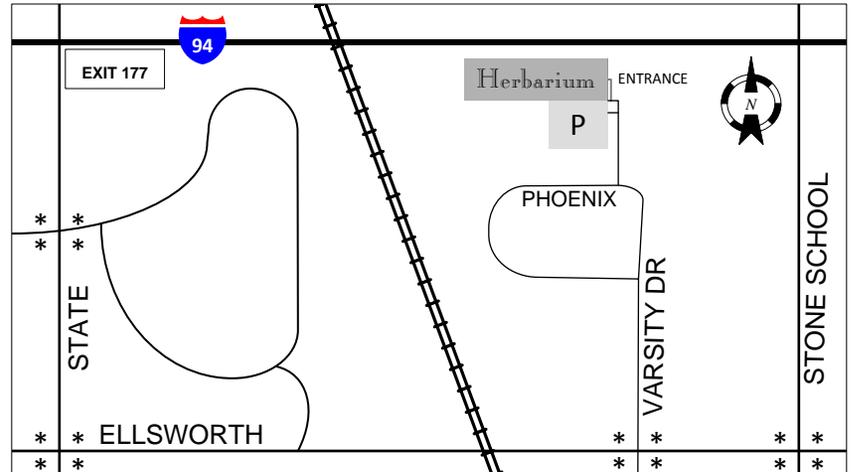
11:00 AM – ca. 3:00 PM SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2013



## HERBARIUM TOUR

University of Michigan Herbarium, 3600 Varsity Drive, Ann Arbor, MICHIGAN  
(734) 764-5544

11:00 AM – NOON



### HERBARIUM TOUR w Tony Reznicek

**From I94:** Exit onto State Street (Exit 177)

South to Ellsworth Road. Turn Left (East) following Ellsworth across the Railway and

at the lights turn Left (North) onto Varsity. Just after the road swings Left (West) turn Right (North) continuing to the Herbarium.

To get to the Matthaei Botanical Gardens from the Herbarium: Follow Varsity to Ellsworth turning Right (West) onto Ellsworth. At the lights at State Street turn Right (North) following State to the entrance onto I94 East. Follow I94 to US23 North and follow the directions below for “From the South off US23.”

## CATERED LUNCH & LECTURE

12:15 – ca. 3:00 PM

**NARGS president, Peter George**

*The Evolution of my Garden*

ca. 1:30 PM

### MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS

1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

734-647-7600

**From the North off US23:** Take EXIT 41

(Plymouth Rd) . Off Plymouth go S on Dixboro Rd to MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS on the Left (East) side.

**From the South off US23:** Take EXIT 39

(Geddes Rd) . Off Geddes go N on Dixboro Rd to MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS on the Right (East) side.

