

"sow Colliflower, and Cabbage seeds--Last of this month
sow Brocoli--Celery--Cucumbers for Pickles Endive:
Featherfew--Melons-Peas--Rhadishes, twice--Kidney
Beans"

Joseph Prentis: Monthly Kalender & Garden Book

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"Another flowering shrub which grows with you which I very much want we call it here the Fringe Tree for the flowers are white and so Lacerated they seem like a Fringe or shreds of Holland or narrow scraps of white paper." So wrote Peter Collinson, Quaker wool merchant and amateur botanist to his Virginia Brother of the Spade John Custis . Fringe trees are a member of the olive family, and also one of Thomas Jefferson's favorites. He called it the Fringe or snowdrop-tree, and of course, its Latin name, Chionanthus virginica. He wrote to his Italian gardener at Monticello from Paris in 1786, "I send you inclosed a list of seeds which I wish you to gather for me, they are intended for friends here whom I very much desire to oblige, and I write to you yourself for them that I may be sure to get them. Do not let time nor trouble prevent your getting them, I pray you, but go yourself in quest of them at the proper season. I depend much on your skill and care in packing them so that they may neither get too dry, nor yet too moist..." Fringe tree was included in this extensive list. Interesting relatives of the fringe tree include ashes, lilac, forsythia, ligustrum, jasmine, and osmanthus. Joan Dutton says its native range is from New Jersey to Florida, and west to Oklahoma and Texas.



1

Red buckeye is just finishing its season of bloom. Its upright red spikes are much admired by our garden tour visitors. The seed was named buckeye because it looks like a deer's eye, and was sometimes used by taxidermist. A buckeye seed carried in the pocket is supposed to be a good remedy against arthritis. Jefferson planted this southern member of the horse-chestnut family at Monticello. Dutton says its native range is from North Carolina and Tennessee south. Many native plants can be grown somewhat north of their natural range. The seeds of buckeye are distributed by squirrels throughout the historic area, and can be seen sprouting in many woodlands and gardens



2



3



4

Since we all spend so much time at the Benjamin Powell house, here is latest update provided by Gordon Chappell. Powell advertised for sale in 1780, "houses and tenements where I at present live just below the capitol...the lots are well enclosed and the houses in good repair and every convenience for the reception of a large family."

The kitchen, office, smokehouse, and dairy are original nineteenth century dependencies. Between the house and the brick office, the crushed marl paths, like a four spoked wheel, outline four quarter circle beds edged in box. Dogwood and crepe myrtles planted outside the boxwood provide height. Shoulder high oakleaf hydrangea encircle the garden and in autumn their reds echo the russets of the changing dogwood and crepe myrtle. Native ferns, peonies, and mountain laurel are interplanted, along with native wisteria on the fence across the front. The Powell garden is one of many designed by Aldon Hopkins.

The puzzle below is a good review for Garden Tour Guides, and a good check-list for HIs who are training to do Garden Tours. Just match the garden to the plants, some answers are used more than once. The correct answers may surprise you.

TREES, SHRUBS, AND VINES

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| ___ Fringe tree | B. Wythe |
| ___ Sweetshrub | E. Greenhow Tenement |
| ___ Snowball bush | C. Prentis |
| ___ Medlar | T. Bruton Parish |
| ___ Red Buckeye | R. Hartwell-Perry |
| ___ Chiswell Crabapple | S. Palace |
| ___ Old Roses | K. Bryant |
| ___ Black Locust | M. Windmill |
| ___ Cross Vine | Y. Brush-Everard |
| ___ Wisteria | A. Custis |
| ___ Mock orange | |

I look forward to seeing you in the garden.

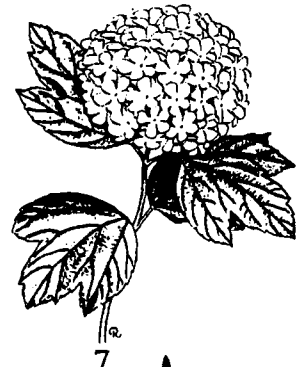
Cynthia



5



6



7



8

1.Fringe tree 2.Red Buckeye 3 Mock orange 4. Crossvine 5.Coral honeysuckle 6.Wisteria 7.Snowball 8.Sweetshrub