



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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A GARDENER'S DELIGHT: WINTER GARDENS AND GENUS HELLEBORUS

NEW BERN, NC - - Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens is pleased to announce a gardener's delight with two free lectures, November 7 and 8, with guest speakers Dick and Judith Tyler of Pine Knott Farms fame. On Friday, November 7 at 7 p.m. the Tyler's present, "The Winter Garden" and on Saturday morning, at 10 a.m. "Helleborus Species for American Gardens" will be the focus of their second lecture. Both free lectures have been made possible by a grant from the Harold H. Bate Foundation and all gardeners and 'would be' gardeners are invited.

Dick and Judith have owned and operated Pine Knot Farms in Virginia on land which has been in Judith's family for six generations. Since their gardens are located in an eastern mixed deciduous forest, their primary focus became plants that would thrive in shade.

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Both partners fell under the intoxicating influence of the genus Helleborus, began breeding the plants and their lives have never been the same. Each winter is devoted to travel and study of the genus. Their travels have taken them throughout the US, UK, Europe and the Balkans searching for hellebores to add to their extensive collection which includes all the species and innumerable hybrids. Their breeding work with the double forms has sparked national interest.

The Tyler's are former co-curators of the Garden of Winter Delights at the J.C. Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh, NC. Their gardens have been featured in Southern Living, Virginia Gardener, Virginia Living, Carolina Gardener, Heritage and Washingtonian magazines, and in numerous newspaper articles and on Martha Stewart's television program and magazine.

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The North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources is a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history, and culture. For more information, visit www.ncculture.com.

Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, located in New Bern, N.C., is an agency of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources. Buildings currently open to the public include the reconstructed Tryon Palace, the John Wright Stanly House, the Robert Hay House and the New Bern Academy Museum. The visitor center and the first floor of Tryon Palace are accessible to visitors with disabilities. For directions and further information about special events, programs or group tours, phone 800-767-1560 or 252-514-4900 or check our web site: <http://www.tryonpalace.org/>