

## 2021 Virtual Spring Symposium Speaker Topic, Biography and Description

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### **Garden Renovation: Transform Your Yard into the Garden of Your Dreams** **Bobbie Schwartz**

An obsessed gardener for fifty years and a landscape designer for forty-two years; Bobbie Schwartz is a certified landscape designer in Shaker Heights, Ohio and the owner of Bobbie's Green Thumb, a full-time business focusing on landscape design. Since 1988, Bobbie has been lecturing locally and nationally for master gardeners, botanical gardens and landscape associations on various aspects of design and perennial and ornamental grass gardening. Bobbie has received several design awards for residential, commercial and institutional designs. She also writes extensively for various associations and magazines. In November 2017, her book, Garden Renovation: Transform Your Yard into the Garden of Your Dreams, was released by Timber Press.

*Homeowners often want to make changes to their landscape but have no idea where to start, what questions to ask, and don't know how much they don't know that they need to know. They also need to set goals and priorities and evaluate their existing landscape before making changes. An extensive discussion of soil, light, and moisture as well as marrying the house and the landscape should lead to a better understanding of the convergence of aesthetics and ecology.*

### **Spring Flowering Plants** **Lisa Roper**

Lisa Roper is the Gravel Garden and Ruin horticulturist at Chanticleer, a public garden in Wayne Pa. where she has gardened for the past 31 years. Lisa also photographs Chanticleer Garden weekly for What's in Bloom on the Chanticleer website. Lisa has a BFA in fine art from The Cooper Union in NYC where she studied fine art and photography. She is a graduate of the Longwood Gardens Professional Gardener Training Program. Lisa has been a guest gardener at Stellenbosch University Garden in South Africa and Great Dixter in West Sussex, UK. She is also a contributor to The Art of Gardening, design inspiration and planting techniques from Chanticleer.

*There is such a wealth of choices when browsing through bulb catalogues that it can be overwhelming. This talk will focus mostly on Spring blooming bulbs, including many unusual ones. Lisa will discuss the different cultural requirements for bulbs to thrive and how to combine bulbs with perennials, annuals, grasses and other bulbs for optimal effect. She will also cover planting techniques, perennializing bulbs, and how to try and ward off critters.*

### **Sensational Spring Plants** **Michael Jesiolowski**

As Director of Horticulture of Rotary Botanical Garden, Jesiolowski leads horticulture staff and volunteers, where they balance the creation of display gardens, with building plant collections with diversity. Jesiolowski has spent most of his career at public garden institutions, previously as Garden Supervisor at Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, Missouri. At Chicago Botanic Garden, where he was Senior Horticulturist of the Entrance Gardens, spearheaded the creation of gravel garden beds in the Parking Lots, and added hundreds of new taxa to the collection. Jesiolowski received his formal training through the University of Illinois, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Horticulture. He also has experience working at The Morton Arboretum (Lisle, IL), Bernheim Arboretum (Clermont, KY), Epic Systems (Verona, WI), and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

*The wait is over, Spring is here! Come celebrate by learning about the very best trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals that provide their primary season of interest in Spring. A light will be shined on some "under the radar" plants and tried and true performers will also be discussed.*