

# LANDIS ARBORETUM

## THE NEWSLETTER

Esperance, New York

SPRING 2007

VOLUME 25, NO. 2

### SPRING PLANT SALE

ABUNDANCE • BEAUTY • CORDIALITY

Book, Bake and Sunday Artisans Sale Add to Format

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Preparation for the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Plant Sale at the Arboretum is well under way. Scheduled for **Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20, from 10 am–4 pm**, this year's expanded event will include the traditional Pick of the Pots members-only preview party on **Friday, May 18** as well as the popular used-book and bake sales. In addition, this year, the signature fundraising weekend will include a select group of regional artisans on Sunday, May 20. Plant Sale weekend will take place rain or shine, and all proceeds from the event will benefit maintenance and improvements at Landis, the Capital Region's arboretum.

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### **Breglia: Under 40 and Making Us Proud**

This *Newsletter* proudly announces the selection of Fred Breglia among this year's "40 Under Forty" honorees by the Capital Region's *Business Review* and event sponsors Fox 23 News, KeyBank, Keeler Mercedes, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

In the words of *Business Review* publisher Carolyn Jones, "40 Under Forty" recognizes young professionals under the age of 40 who are making a difference in their businesses and communities. [Fred was] selected by our advisory panel from over 190 nominations, based on [his] career accomplishments and focus on success."

**...mention of the name Breglia conjures up near-instant associations with several established entities ... in the forefront of environmental issues ...**

The "40 Under Forty" honorees will be celebrated in a special publication and in video-taped segments prepared for the May 3 awards luncheon at Albany's Crown Plaza Hotel. More than 800 Capital Region business representatives, along with family, friends, and associates of honorees attended last year's luncheon.

The pre-taped interviews with the honorees highlight their record of accomplishment as front-runners on the Capital District

business landscape. In Fred's case, we say, "And why not!" Because, quite simply, we already know that ... at 33, Ferdinand (Fred) Breglia is an environmental wunderkind and natural overachiever.

Although this opening line to his nomination submission says it all, those less familiar with the multi-talented, multi-layered, and multi-tasked Fred may want to know more. The following highlights from his nomination provide both context and meaning for his selection among the region's finest.

For horticulturalists, environmentalists, "earth watchers," and an increasing number of socially conscious Capital Region residents alike, mention of the name Breglia conjures up near-instant associations with several established entities that serve as emblematic bellwethers in the forefront of environmental issues throughout the northeast. Among these are:

- The Landis Arboretum, where he serves as director of horticulture and operations,
- The New York Old Growth Forest Association, of which he is cofounder and president.

—continued on page 4.

### **Plant & Book Donations**

The Arboretum welcomes plant and book donations at the Plant Sale. Plants should be "sale ready" and clearly labeled—name, variety, color are suggested. They should be weed-free and unsightly foliage should be removed

We will do the pricing.

If you have plants or books you wish to donate or need information, please call the office at 518-875-6935 to make arrangements.

THE LANDIS ARBORETUM NEWSLETTER is published quarterly for its members. The Arboretum's mission is to foster the appreciation of trees and other plants and their importance in our environment.

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Anne Donnelly, Sue Gutbezahl, Sonja Javarone, Nolan Marciniac, and Thom O'Connor

COPY EDITORS

Sonja Javarone and Nolan Marciniac

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Sue Gutbezahl

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Fred Breglia, Anne Donnelly, Sonja Javarone, Maria Kuethe, Nolan Marciniac, Thom O'Connor, and Judy Puddester,

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Miller Printing and Litho Amsterdam, NY

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Judy Puddester, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Patty Redlin, *Administrative Assistant*

Address correspondence to:

Newsletter Editor, Landis Arboretum P.O. Box 186, Esperance, NY 12066.

phone 518-875-6935

fax 518-875-6394

email landis@midtel.net

http://www.LandisArboretum.org

The Arboretum is located one and one-half miles north of Route 20 in Esperance. Follow the signs from the village to Lape Road. The Arboretum is one-quarter mile straight ahead. Visit our website for more information and directions.

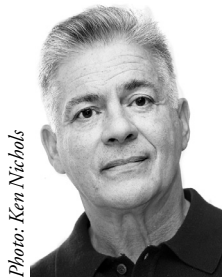
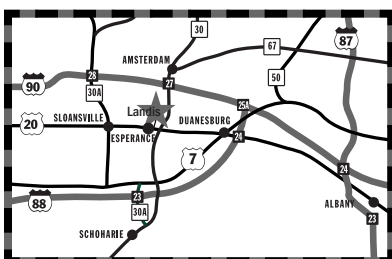


Photo: Ken Nichols

AT LARGE by Thom O'Connor

Arboretum activities continue to gather momentum. All short-term projects now are prioritized against the considerable challenges of implementing the Spring Plant/Book/Bake Sale in May—followed quickly by the Second Annual Summer Solstice Soiree in June. Both events have been expanded and improved. The Arboretum's proactive stance is evident elsewhere as well.

Living Museums, Potential Dollars

Just weeks ago, for example, we participated in a two-day meeting of the Coalition of Living Museums (CLM) under the banner of the New York State's Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquariums (ZBGA) program. The ZBGA provides up to ten percent annually toward operating expenses for living museums whose aim is to educate and inspire the public—yet require constant and intensive care of their wildlife and plant collections. The CLM includes "heavy hitters"—such as the New York Botanical Garden, Staten Island and Bronx Zoos—as well as many smaller but no less important members, including us and the Cornell Raptor Program.

Meeting talk centered on the 25th anniversary of the New York bottle bill, the state's most effective environmental program, which since 1982 reclaimed more than 90 million bottles and cans because of the 5 cent refundable deposit. Proposed updates expand the bill to include bottled water, iced tea, sports drinks, juice, and other non-carbonated beverages with some exceptions. The Bigger Better Bottle Bill could generate ongoing increases to the ZBGA and expansion of the EPF. CLM organizations such as the Arboretum would benefit from the increase. The NYS Senate and Assembly passed the state environmental budget on March 30 with mixed results: the good news, the passed budget includes \$250 million for the EPF (a \$25 million increase) with \$8 million for ZBGA (a \$500,000 increase). Unfortunately, the legislature did not pass the bottle bill with the budget. The future expansion of our operating funds allocation under the ZBGA formula is dependent upon passage of the bottle bill. Our participation in a grassroots initiative within the CLM/ZBGA will continue.

Master Gardener Alert

Branching out, long-time Arboretum volunteer Cindy King is spearheading a fall event that will bring Master Gardeners from five counties to the Arboretum. The idea evolved from an

informal conversation at last year's Capital District Flower Show and found a champion in Cindy. Because of distance and their work commitments, many of the gardeners rarely see one another, says Sue Pezzolla, Cornell Cooperative Extension (Albany), and all are excited to see the changes at the Arboretum that they have been hearing about. If you wish to support Cindy in this effort, contact her at 518-396-8563 or e-mail baroness371@capital.net.

Home Shopping that Pays!

We are pleased to announce that the Arboretum has joined iGive.com, an online site that enables shoppers to support their favorite charities (need a hint?) without incurring additional costs. More than 650 select stores and catalogs participate in this evolving program. We'll share more about it in future issues of *The Newsletter*. Better yet, try it and share your experiences with us. www.iGive.com. And, by the next issue, I'll plan to report on the reconstruction of our website www.LandisArboretum.org—which is under way.

Scouting Excellence at Landis

In closing, the Arboretum is pleased to again sponsor Boy Scout Troop 501 under the very capable leadership of Scout Master Chuck Stephens of Delanson. The 11-member Troop 501 has been invaluable to the Arboretum, especially through volunteer efforts at our Spring/Fall Plant Sales.

The Troop offers its members guided and responsible fun and adventure; trains them in citizenship, service, and leadership; engenders self-reliance; and promotes the maturation of youth prepared to participate in society. These attributes complement the Arboretum's own educational endeavors, and the scouts make quality use of the Arboretum's grounds.

Christopher James Whitman, son of Charles and Elisabeth Whitman of Mariaville, recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout as a member of Troop 501. For his Eagle project, Whitman built 10 Leopold garden benches to be placed throughout the Arboretum. As a Scout, Whitman earned 46 merit badges and was awarded the Arrow of Light. Whitman is a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has received the National Den chief Award, World Conservation Award, and the God and Life religious award. He currently is a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster with the troop.

No doubt Fred Lape would be proud that his Oak Nose Farm is the site of such high ideals, noble goals, and community-minded action.



## COLLECTIONS NEWS

Fred Breglia, Director of Horticulture and Operations

# Northeast Oak Collection Puts Landis at the TOP

The Landis Arboretum is participating in an organized effort to preserve the world's plant life.

It is an astonishing fact that, according to scientist, environmental advocate, and scientific humanist E.O. Wilson, more than 27,000 plants become extinct every year around the world. The primary reason for species extinction is habitat loss due to reasons as varied as agriculture, clearing of forests, residential and commercial development, and water development (e.g. dams). The Nature Conservancy believes that more than one-third of US species are currently at risk.

As many of you know, the Arboretum was recognized in 2002 by the American Public Garden Association's (APGA) North American Plant Collections Consortium (NAPCC) program as an official holder of the "Oaks of the Northeastern United States" designation. The APGA created this consortium about eight years ago to preserve the widely diverse species of plant life worldwide.

At the Arboretum, we are growing and preserving the Northeast Oak Collection, which is part of a much larger (*Quercus*) collection in fourteen premier gardens across the US—including the Arnold Arboretum, the Cornell Plantations, the US National Arboretum, the NY Botanic Garden, the UC Berkeley Botanic Garden and the Missouri Botanic Garden. These institutions are collaborating to preserve the genus *Quercus* (oak). There are more than 362 oak taxa (species and subspecies), in the world.

In addition, Landis, the Capital Region's Arboretum, is among only fifteen public gardens nationwide chosen to participate with the Chicago Botanic Garden, in co-operation with the (APGA) and the University of Kansas, in the development of a database system for a Web-based catalog of plant collections

Called "*PlantCollections*<sup>TM</sup>—A Community Solution," the shared system will enable multiple institutions to access and integrate a comprehensive inventory. It represents a first step in coordinating a continent-wide approach to plant germplasm preservation. (Germplasm refers to the genetic resources or

## Special Thanks

The Arboretum is especially thankful to former Board members Anne Jaster and Carol Wock. Each contributed funds to purchase a new computer essential to the May installation of upgraded BG-BASE software for "*PlantCollections*<sup>TM</sup>—A Community Solution," (see Collections News, at left).

Discussions are under way between the Arboretum and SUNY Cobleskill regarding classes in Public Horticulture, which includes "hands on" work with BG BASE. The new hardware is an essential to implementing that plan.

DNA that contains the instructions specifying the biological development of all cellular forms of life and many viruses).

### Responding to the Call

Notre Dame University is currently working with Landis to conduct research on our NAPCC *Quercus* Collection. The research is primarily investigating forests' responses to climate change, specifically the effects of the last ice age, which covered much of North America. Using micro-satellite and chloroplast RFLP markers, Notre Dame researchers are investigating the forests' recolonization of the United States after the retreat of the last glacier. These investigations

center on genetic diversity changes as the migration occurred and on the possibility that some diversity was preserved in refuges of oaks that persisted above the glaciation line.

This research focuses on *Q. rubra*, northern red oak. Wider investigations will look at genetic differences among *Quercus* species, which have contested species relationships, since so many oaks form hybrids.

You will be pleased to know that we are proud to be in the best company as we look ahead. Everyone at the Landis Arboretum is excited about the possibilities—and grateful that our on-going work here has attracted the attention of front-running gardens across the nation. We are now a nationally acknowledged scientific institution.

### Bruce Kershner Bill Ahead

Although details have not yet been completed, we also are proud to be working with Senator Mary Lou Rath (R-Buffalo) on formulating breakthrough legislation to protect old growth forests. It is our fond hope that the bill will be named after a close associate and friend of the Landis Arboretum, Bruce



Kershner, (photo, left) who died in December. Bruce was a member of the investigative team that assessed the old growth forest within lands donated to the Arboretum by neighbor and friend Bill Fairchild in 2004.

### National Trails Day

Be sure to join us on June 2nd from 9 am to 3 pm for National Trails Day. Each year, thousands of people from across the country gather at hundreds of trailheads to work on hiking trails. This year, Landis volunteers will work to improve some of our hiking trails. Bring your work gloves, favorite shovel and pruners, and join the fun. Most tools will be provided. Register by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Remember: "If You're Not *FOREST*, Then You're *AGAINST* Us."



# THANKS... AND THANKS AGAIN

We have much to be thankful for at the Arboretum. A warm and heartfelt Great Oak hug to the following – most of whom contributed to our Holiday Festival Fundraiser.

Anne Donnelly	Miller Printing
Apple Barrel	Nancy Sniffen
B's Nest/Barbara Monsees	Natural Foods & More
Bear's Steakhouse	NBT Bank
Best Western	Nolan Marciniac
BJ's Bricks/Betsy Mathias	Pat Fortorelli
Bob Rawlins	Pine Ridge Dental
Bobby Poorman	Plantscapes—Donna Vincent
Bodacious Woodworks/Dan Sainsbury	Psychic Corbie Mitleid
Bonnie Keller	Randy Passonno
Brown's Transportation	Randy Proctor
Cabella's	Rose's Craft & Floral
Chef JoAnne Cloughly	Sarah Bever
Cripple Creek Farm	Seagroat Floral Co.
Dave Campbell	Sharon Pasquine
Dawn Aulita	Shawn Schultz
Debra Darby	Sheri Orvis
Dottie Gallo-Vojnar	Springfield Tractor Implement
Duanesburg Area Community Center	Sterling Jewelry
Ellen Cutler	Steve Borst
George Mann Tory Tavern	Stewart's Shops and Corp.
Gibby's Diner	STOCK Builders
Gobbler's Knob/Georgia Van Dyke	Susan Stewart
Hillview Tavern	The Bears Steakhouse
Howe Caverns—John Sagendorf	Thom O'Connor/Marketing Communications
Internet Wizards	Thyme for Tea
Jeff Schworm	Tri-County Arts Council
Jerry Peters	Turnpike Glass
John Wilkinson	Turnpike Power
Judy Helfrich	Wesley B&B
Laurie Meyers	Wellington's Herbs & Spices
Lisa Murphy	
Linda Singer	
LJ Potter Leather	
Lorraine Stevens	
Luanne Sitterly	
McGillicuddy Soap	
Michael DeSalvatore	

## Breglia—from page 1

- New York State Champion Tree Project Inc., a non-profit entity dedicated to the preservation and propagation of national and NYS champion trees, for which he is a board member and official “tree.”
- The Schoharie County Big Trees Project, for which he serves as official measurer—and personally he has nominated 30 trees for “champion” designation).
- The Earth Charter Roundtable, for which Mr. Breglia is a highly visible, active, and passionate advocate.

## Community Outreach

In addition to his established role as a natural teacher and member of the Arboretum's subject-matter-expert team of instructors, Mr. Breglia is championing a forward-looking partnership between the Landis Arboretum and the Montgomery and Schoharie county chapters of the New York State ARC. His goal: to turn the 548-acre natural splendor of the Arboretum into a natural classroom for those who are physically and mentally challenged can learn life and work-focused horticulture skills. Under [his] guidance, the Arboretum is working on a program to “deed” plots at the Arboretum to individual clients to give them “ownership” of their work space.

Above and beyond his dual roles at Landis, Mr. Breglia is a frequent speaker at regional non-profit organizations and events. He continues to be involved in Main Street reclamation projects within Cobleskill and Esperance, NY, and is a frequent consultant to regional town governments trying to refurbish their primary community walkways and gathering places—who must work under heavy budget constraints.

## Man for All Seasons

A modern-day renaissance man in the tradition of Arboretum founder Fred Lape, Mr. Breglia is also a painter, photographer, and an unabashed open-mic enthusiast. He even has his own band, Fred and Friends. In this professional pursuits and personal life, Mr. Breglia marches to his own tune; fittingly and appropriately, it includes the harmonic alchemy of seasoned leadership skills, global perspective, and community sensitivities that encourage others to join with him in the daily regeneration of effort and commitment that, combined, have made the Landis Arboretum a center of excellence and source of pride for Mr. Breglia and the Capital Region as well.

To which we add, Hear! Hear!

—And Congratulations, Fred!

# SCHEDULE OF PLANT SALE EVENTS

In addition to thousands of plants, other highlights at the Spring Plant/Book/Bake & Sunday Artisans' saale include:

- **Pick of the Pots (PoPs).** Because of the limited availability of many plants, you improve your chances to get the ones you want by attending the Pick-of-the-Pots Preview Party on Friday evening at 5pm. This exclusive-to-members-only event includes complimentary buffet dinner (5:30–7:30pm) by Sweet Tooth Caterers to the first 120 people who **register with \$20 payment** by Friday, May 11.
- **POTS at PoPs:** Ms. Cherie and the Hot Pots bring music, song. And senior sizzle to this Members Only event.
- **Saturday & Sunday Bake Sale** with unusual and tasty homemade cookies, cakes, pies and breads. Beverages including soda, water, and coffee will be available. Proceeds to benefit Landis' perennial gardens.
- **Book Sale** (under cover in the Barn) features hundreds of used books of all topics including horticulture, nature & science, cooking, philosophy, self-help, sports, mystery, science fiction, and more.
- **Sunday Artisans' Sale Debut** of this Plant Sale “first.” Select area artisans will showcase, talk about, and sell their wares. Sunday, 10am–4pm. See page 7 for more details.
- **Victorian Picnic** Dressed in Victorian garb, members of the Victorian Social Club and Victorian Culture League will be on-site for a picnic and stroll through the Plant Sale and Artisans' event adding visual interest and fun!
- **At Your Service** Volunteers from Arboretum-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 501 will be available to help those needing assistance in getting purchases to their vehicles.
- **The Acorn Gift Shop** will be open. Some new and popular items include polo and sweatshirts with our logo, high-quality pruning tools, animal puppets, nature games, and books.
- **Plant Raffle.** Special plants will be raffled at this year's sale.
- **“Migrating Geese and Cobblestones”** This year's annual quilt will be unveiled at the Plant Sale. Cotton quilt with batting in colors that no one can refuse. See photo, page 7.
- **Lunch.** Food and beverages will be for sale.

# LANDIS ARBORETUM

## Spring Plant Sale 2007

SATURDAY, MAY 19 · SUNDAY, MAY 20 · 10-4PM · RAIN OR SHINE · LANDIS ARBORETUM · LAPE ROAD · ESPERANCE · NY · 518-875-6935

### Plants and People Come Together at Spring Plant Sale

by Jeff Schworm

It's a natural relationship.

People depend upon the plant kingdom for food and flowers, beer, wine, dyes, perfumes, medicines—and so much more. On the other hand, plants depend upon people to provide the conditions necessary for them to grow and thrive. Here at Landis, we celebrate this interdependence in many ways.

One of the most important ways Landis fosters that interdependence is through our plant sales. At our annual Spring Plant Sale, we strive to provide you with a wide array of plant materials, as well as the expertise to guide you toward success in growing these plants. Of course, we also depend on the success of this sale to supply greatly needed operating funds to continue our work at the Arboretum.

#### Uncommon Trees in the Spotlight

This year, Fred Breglia, our director of horticulture, has focused on new and unusual ornamental trees, and we have decided to follow his lead. For the plant sale, we have obtained a great selection of container-grown trees that are sure to be crowd pleasers: 'Korean Sun' pear, 'Autumn Blaze' maple, 'Camperdown' elm, serviceberry, katsura, ginkgo, and several linden selections. All in all, this year's spring sale will offer an uncommonly diverse and eclectic collection of trees, with something for everyone, including 'Ruby Red' horse chestnut, 'Thomas Black' walnut, Russian olive, 'Chapperale' weeping mulberry, as well as a smattering of oaks, maples, birch, and locust. Want a flowering crab? We'll have a nice group available, including 'Sugertyme,' 'Prairie Fire,' 'Adirondack,' and 'Profusion.'

How about a nice 'Autumn Blaze'? (Does that sound as refreshing to an environmentalist as a Hawaiian Punch to my grandkids?) *Acer x freemani* 'Jeffersred,' aka 'Autumn Blaze' maple, was selected Urban Tree of the Year for 2003, as determined by responses to an annual survey in the publication *City Trees*. This magazine serves as the official journal to the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA).

This cultivar was partly selected because of its unique combination of the best traits from two native species, red maple and silver maple. The 'Autumn Blaze' maple preserves its ancestors' good qualities, including brilliant orange-red color, dense and healthy branching, and a vigor that enhances growth and protects the tree from insects and disease. If you're looking for fast growth and eye catching fall color, this is one tough tree to beat. We expect to have a good supply of these trees in various sizes.

#### Perennial Favorites

People do love perennials! The seemingly endless supply of new introductions and new uses for overlooked plants always create excitement. Let's not forget that potted perennials are usually small and that one can fit quite a few in the car! No matter what your excuse may be for loving perennials, we'll have the cure. We have worked hard to expand our selections. From 4" to 2-gallon pots and lots in between, and from A to Z, there will be many selections for you to consider. Or you could keep it simple and just take three of everything

—if you get here early! This year, we will also have a collection of lilies from our own greenhouse, including Asiatics, Orientals, toad lilies, tiger lilies, L.A. asiflorum hybrids (*Lilium longiflorum* x *asiaticum*), (photo, left) oriental-tiger hybrids and many more. The L.A. asiflorum hybrids are a great group of lilies that perennialize well and make strong color statements in



Utrecht University Botanic Gardens

the garden. We expect to have a nice assortment of these lilies and many other great choices for both fun and effect, including a nice collection of *Arisaema*, aka cobra lilies, which are closely related to jack-in-the-pulpits. (photo, above)

#### Colorful Options

Just a quick mention of a few of the hundreds of other choices: *Agastache* 'Blue Fortune,' a new hybrid hyssop from Europe, which is a steady bloomer with sturdy growth to 36"; *Chelone* 'Pink Sensation,' a newer pink turtlehead with great characteristics; *Draba aizoides*, a hardy little plant for the rock garden with tufted, alpine-like growth and yellow flowers; *Heuchera* x 'Black Tie,' an interesting new introduction from North Star Perennials in Minnesota, featuring very dark, almost black, foliage; iris 'Pink Haze,' a mid-size Siberian iris with very clear and pure pink

—continued on page 6.



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## WHEN YOU ATTEND THE PLANT SALE...

TO HELP YOU AND OUR VOLUNTEERS

- **Reservations are required** for the Members Only Preview Party. **Non-members** may join and reserve prior to May 11.
- **Starting times** and dates for the sale are firm. Purchases may not be made prior to the sale.
- **Arboretum plant experts** will be available all weekend to answer your questions and to provide suggestions and advice on plant selection, site requirements, and proper planting and care techniques. We cannot take orders or set aside plants prior to the sale.
- **Cars** should be parked in our upper parking area next to the Meeting House.
- **Limited handicapped** parking and drop-off space is available. Please inform the parking attendants of your needs.
- **Dogs** are not permitted at the Plant Sale. (Dogs should never be left in cars because temperatures rise quickly inside vehicles.)
- **Restrooms** and picnic tables are available for your convenience.
- **Please have your sales slip** available to be hole-punched as you leave. Have your membership card handy for quicker checkout. (10% discount applies)
- **All purchased items** must be removed by 4pm, Sunday. Landis does not make deliveries and is not responsible for items left after 4pm.

### Spring Plant Sale— from page 5.

flowers—a sought after Siberian iris trait; *Minuartia verna*, or vernal stitchwort, a Cornell all-star groundcover resembling moss with white flowers; *Thalictrum aquilegiaefolium* ‘Columbine,’ a hardy and bushy meadow rue with clouds of pink blooms—a nice background plant growing to 3–5’; and *Xanthorhiza simplicissima*, or yellow root, which is native to parts of New York. This last is not really a perennial, but we like to keep an open mind! The small shrub grows to about 3’ and shows off interesting little purplish-brown flowers, and it has a history of medicinal uses. In areas without much snow cover, it seems to die back, but those bright yellow roots keep on going. Reminds us of things here at Landis or...the energizer bunny...or Thom O’Connor!

There are always at least a few folks around here who seem to stubbornly enjoy flirting with interesting and unusual conifers. These specimens are hard to get, sometimes hard to grow and keep, and usually expensive, but, gosh, they are fun to watch! OK, it’s probably just Peter Rumora and I who are in that group of enthusiasts, but these conifers are FUN! Weeping hemlock, spruce and pine—it doesn’t get any better than that! Myriad varieties of dwarf and miniature evergreens and an incredible array of topiary and natural shapes—all right, that’s it: now I won’t be able to sleep! Let’s move on to the shrubs, but before we get off the subject of conifers, please make a notation to not forget to notice a couple of very cool Alaskan weeping cypress...cool enough to be named ‘Jubilee.’ *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* ‘Jubilee’ is a weeper with graceful sweeps and matures to a tree of great character and will surely win a few hearts.

The crazy thing about flowering shrubs is that they are referred to as “flowering” but are not always in flower. While that is a big disappointment to many people, it is important to point out that they *do* flower at some time. Hey, are you at your very finest everyday? We will attempt to have many flowering shrubs at their finest, while others may be just past that point, and others still will have fine moments to come.

I will never forget a customer of mine who, years ago, had picked out a beautiful large Herbert azalea in full splendor. After my frank and honest answer to her question regarding the relative length of bloom time, the plant was lowered to the ground almost as if it were *hot!* She purchased a rose instead. There are plants that will

tend to happily fool us, such as variegated shrubs. From a distance at least, *Weigela floribunda* ‘Variegata’ appears to flower full-time during the growing season. *Weigela* ‘French Lace’ is somewhat similar but with deeper coloration. Another variegated plant is the ‘Hakuro Nishiki’ willow, which like its younger sibling ‘Flamingo,’ almost shimmers with pink, white, and green variegation. Other nice variegated selections are ‘Ivory Halo’ dogwood and ‘Fiesta’ forsythia.

We also expect to have the colorful *Houttynia cordata* ‘Chameleon.’ Although in some areas it is considered invasive, here in the great Northeast we are often pleased to witness a bit of dogged determination. The plant will change colors somewhat, depending upon location and proximity of other plants. *Loucothoe fontanesiana* ‘Rainbow,’ *Daphne burkwoodi* ‘Carol Mackie,’ and *Pieris japonica* ‘Little Heath’ are all exceptional and colorful broadleaf evergreen selections which we expect to have for the weekend sale.

Less indecisive folk may tend to be more inclined toward a plant selection that is so striking when in flower that they won’t care that it only blooms once. A new Proven Winner selection, ‘Pinky Winky’ hydrangea (photo, left) is just one of those outstanding choices, featuring huge pink cone-shaped flowers that come into bloom late in the season when little else does. ‘Pinky Winky’ is a



PeeGee-type hydrangea descended from *H. paniculata* ‘Pink Diamond’ and is therefore very hardy. The French lilac, ‘Katherine Havermeyer,’ is another good-looker whose lavender-pink double flowers are so intoxicating you’ll be happy to have her around, if only for a short time each year. What would you think about a tree form *Syringa vulgaris* ‘Sensation’ lilac? Well, we expect a few of those as well! If you absolutely must have season-long color, there are always cinquefoil (*Potentilla*) varieties in orange, yellow, white, pink, and shades of red, gold, and apricot.

Rhododendrons, azaleas, great evergreens, shade and ornamental trees, native plants, along with a better-than-ever perennial offerings and the usually unusual selection of flowering shrubs...Add all to of this variety several improved hardy rose selections, a few bright and interesting annuals, heaths and heathers, contributions from members’ gardens, along with an expanded bargain area, and you get a Spring Plant Sale to write home about!

Photo: [www.amazon.com/Pinky-Winky-Hydrangea-Bush-FANTASTIC/](http://www.amazon.com/Pinky-Winky-Hydrangea-Bush-FANTASTIC/)

## People and Plants, Naturally

Under a unifying theme (see article by Jeff Schworm) which partners people and plants in ensuring the sustainability of the planet, this year's offerings will reflect uncommon diversity with an eclectic offering of trees, plants, and shrubs.

"Our goal is to offer something for every gardener's taste and landscape," says Jeff Schworm, who worked in tandem with Board member Scott Trees as Plant Sale procurement specialists for the May event.

According to Mr. Schworm, the William T. Raymond Greenhouse at the Arboretum will play an important role in this year's offerings. "We have a great collection of garden lilies growing in the greenhouse right now and the opportunity to pluck them direct from the benches should add to the thrill," he says.

## PoPs and Hot Pots, too!

By longstanding tradition, the Friday before the Plant Sale opens to the general public is designated as Pick of the Pots (PoPs), a members-only plant preview/sale and twilight supper. The light buffet supper, a specialty offering of Sweet Tooth Caterers (Esperance), will be available to the first 120 members at the PoPs event.

This year's PoPs event features the humor and melodious sounds of Ms. Cherie and the Hot Pots, and will take place on Friday, May 18, 5–8 pm. Preview Party admission is \$20 for members in good standing. **Reservations are required.**

"The PoPs event is a privilege of membership," says executive director Thom O'Connor. "The event is our token thank you to all who continue to support the Landis Arboretum through membership. And, although all members are invited to participate in PoPs for the \$20 admission, we are forced to limit the number of meals to the first 120 people who register."

Non-member friends, associates, and relatives who wish to attend the PoPs event can reserve and pay for membership before May 10. Admission for attendees who sign-up as members prior to the event is \$50, which includes the PoPs Party and discounted one-year membership.

For more information about the Spring Plant Sale or individual and corporate memberships, please call 518-875-6935.

## Sunday Artisans' Sale

Always responsive to members and customer comments, the Arboretum will offer

for the first time this year a showcase of select area artisans whose work will be for sale in conjunction with the Plant Sale. Artisans' Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 10 am–4 pm.

Among those expected to participate in Artisan's Sunday are: Andrea Schleider, Passing Fancy; Betty Pillsbury, The Green Spiral; Jan Hornbach Watercolors; Kathy Cornell, Paper Moon Primitives; Kate Hahn, Hahn Studio; Sharon Pasquini, Thistle Hill Soap; Kirsten Sanchirico, Kirsten's Beeswax Candles; Kathy Catlin of Kings Creek Pottery; Barbara Weloth's Homegrown Designs and Garden Accessories; Mary Ann Schuler, Fish Rubbings and Photography; Judy Helfrich, Jeweler; Scott Zampier, Earthy Originals™; BJ's Personalized Garden Bricks; and the 4-H club, Quaker Street Critters.

Artisans interested in participating in this inaugural event are invited to contact the Arboretum at 518-875-6935 by May 11.

## Bookies in Paradise

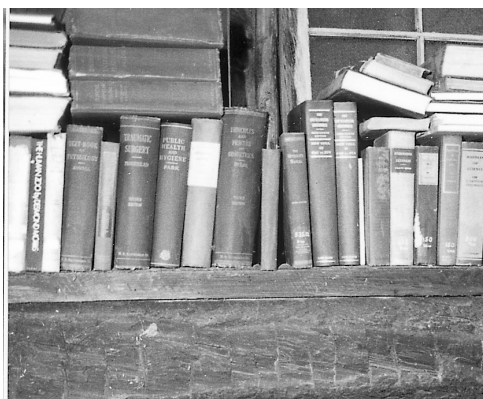


Photo by Sonja Javarone

The natural splendors of the 548-acre Landis Arboretum is bound to be the destination of choice for book buyers, sellers, and collectors for the Used Book Sale scheduled in concert with the Arboretum's Plant Sale. Bibliophiles are always well-rewarded with thousands of titles in good condition to browse through and buy, while surrounded by the more than 6,000 trees, plants, shrubs, and perennials. Regardless of the weather, the Annual Plant and Book Sale will take place; the books are under cover in the Arboretum's 1830s English barn.

The annual Book Sale is made possible through the generosity of the Arboretum's many friends and supporters who collect books throughout the year with the sale in mind. Dozens of volunteers clean and categorize the offerings—both hard and soft cover—that range from 25 cents to as low as \$2 for hardcover editions. Categories include, but are not limited to, science and nature, gardening, reference, poetry, child, mystery, self-help, and diet

and nutrition. Donations of books in good condition are always welcomed. Please contact the Arboretum with information about book donations by May 10.

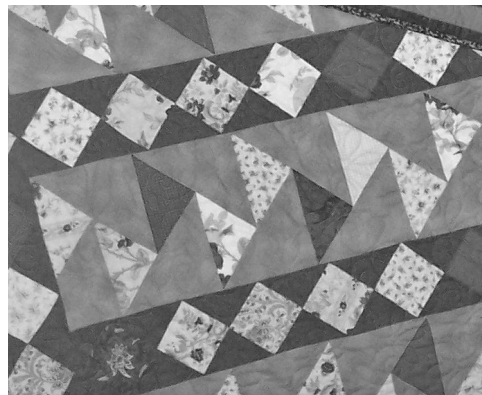
## Meet the Victorians

Members of the Victorian Social Club and Victorian Cultural League also are expected to be on site for a picnic and stroll at the event. The Victorian Social Club started in 1995, when five like-minded people gathered at Congress Park in Saratoga Springs to enjoy a picnic. Dressed in Victorian garb, with picnic baskets filled with sweets and savories, starched white linens, fancy silver and delicate china, their founding members traveled back to the 19th Century. Since that day their numbers have grown, but their goal is still to learn about Victorian life and culture by recreating Victorian events. Toward this end, they encourage members to don authentic or period style dress to all their events.

## Migrating Geese and Cobblestones

Each year the Arboretum offers a quilt created by member-volunteers. This year's offering is titled "Migrating Geese and Cobblestones." The beautiful 64 x 85 hand-sewn, cotton quilt with batting will be unveiled at the Plant Sale. Volunteer Toine Wyckoff (Niskayuna) assembled the pieces that comprise the comely quilt, and well-known Voorheesville craftsman Lew "Quiltsmith" Schedlbauer combined and stitched the pattern to backing.

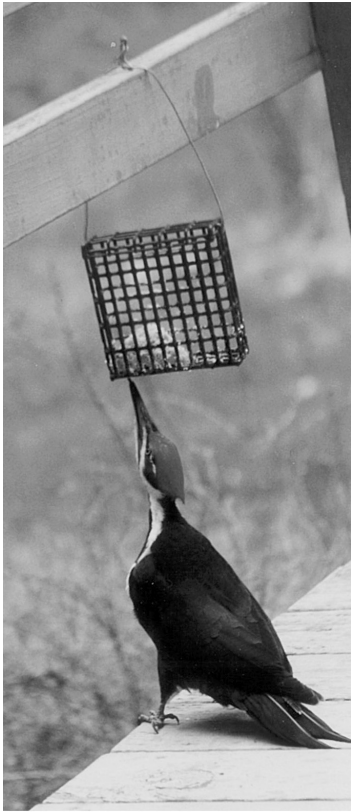
"This is no mere wall hanging," says Toine. "Because of its size, the more utilitarian among us might just as easily use it for as a bed cover, and its colors—ranging from woody



greens to florals include golds, greens, yellow, red and blue—and animals in fine detail—expand its possibilities for any home's style."

See for yourself—and greet your friends and neighbors as well—at the 35th Annual Landis Arboretum Spring Plant/Book/Bake/Artisans/Quilt Sale!

The suet feeder was a failed attempt to stop this pileated woodpecker—attracted by Asian lady beetles—from destroying Sonja Javarone's window frames.



# Lape Magazines Presented to Arboretum

by Maria Kuethe

The Landis Arboretum has received a gift which illuminates the philosophy of its founder, Fred Lape.

Leonard Kilian of Scotia, author and local historian, presented the Arboretum with some original copies of *Trails: A Literary Magazine* of the Outdoors, published by Fred Lape from 1932 to 1951. For many of these years, Lape printed the magazine on a hand printing press which had belonged to his father. The joy in mingling abstract and concrete tasks was typical of him.

*Trails* contains poems by Lape and other poets. Many of the poems by other writers seem rather dated and sentimental, but Lape's own verse never does. The loving curiosity about the material world which led him to relish manual printing and to lovingly restore the house and barn on what is now the Landis Arboretum is reflected in his poetry's keen observation of Nature. He disliked obscure verse and believed that the complexity of a poem should not be a matter of ambiguous language but rather a reflection of the complex nature of what is observed. The freshness of many of Lape's poems today suggests that he accomplished his goal.

Of the early departure of barn swallows in late summer, he wrote:

Mid-August they gather their young  
in rows  
on the light wires like strings of buttons  
stretched across the yard. Maybe a week  
they linger,  
talking but restless with their inner urge.  
Then a clear morning comes and they  
are gone.  
Only the homely sparrows chirp inside  
the barn,  
And like the limbs of trees with leaves  
fallen,  
The vacant air lanes stretch out to  
the sun.

In such lines we hear the voice of a man who sought out with the greatest care that particular site on his farm where each tree planted might prosper and give joy to future generations.

Those members wishing to read *Trails* should contact the Arboretum office.

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- Arboreta...** Grow and keep labeled collections of woody plants which grow in a given locality.
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- Newly reclaimed historic Quarry Garden.** Acorn Gift Shop.
- Disseminate information to the public** through educational programs, workshops, and publications.
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The Arboretum's beauty will leave you breathless—whatever the time of year!!



# Volunteers Make Their Mark

by Judy Puddester



We've had a rousing start to the year.

In late February, Landis volunteers Ben Fox, Alan French, Jack Fritz, Bill Morton, Bonnie Morton, Paul Redlin, Ron Needle, and Erin McKenna turned out

in force to clean and prepare the William T. Raymond Greenhouse at the Arboretum for our up-coming season. The greenhouse will play an important role in this year's Spring Plant Sale.

The Arboretum's booth at the Hannaford Kidz Expo on March 3 drew a large crowd due in large measure to Board Member Anne Donnelly, who lent her stuffed bobcat, barred owl, and many animals skins to attract visitors to the booth. With the help of office manager Patty Redlin, the booth engaged hundreds of parents, enabling us to hand out membership brochures, calendars of coming attractions, a newly completed volunteer brochure, trail maps, and plant sale information—while the kids enjoyed the animals.

Everyone who attended or participated in the Capital District Flower and Garden Show on March 23–25 witnessed the importance and impact of our presence at such a well-promoted and attended regional event.

Just as important as “being there” was the critical, on-the-spot assistance of our stalwart volunteers such as Ann Bevins, Cody Baciuska, Anne Donnelly, Florence Grimm, Sue Gutbezahl, Lawson Harris, Annette Holowka, Ken Hotopp, Marian Hotopp, Wilma Jozwiak, Wendy Kass, Jane Kirstel, Bill Morton, Bonnie Morton, Bruce Mereness, Jim Paley, Patty Redlin, Bob Rynk, Dawn Vink, and Toine Wyckoff. With their help, the Arboretum greeted old friends, welcomed some new ones, and gathered hundreds of new prospects for membership. Once again Anne's bobcat and barred owl drew a big crowd. An Arboretum gift basket added interest and enticed visitors to offer their contact information into a raffle. Board member Ken Hotopp

and his wife Marian pulled the winning form at random at the end of the event. The winner of the basket, Jean Gehring from

Altamont, was notified by phone.

A big thanks to all who helped develop the booth, including Ben Fox and Thom O'Connor.

## Join the Fun at the Plant Sale

The Spring Plant/Book/Bake Sale and Artisans' Sunday (May 18, 19, and 20) is one of the two most important signature fundraising events for the Arboretum. As you see elsewhere in *The Newsletter*, this event has been expanded as a result of customer feedback.



Photo by Betsy Thompson

**Volunteer Wilma Jozwiak talks with a visitor to the Arboretum's booth at the Capital District Flower and Garden Show in March.**

The areas in which we need help include—

- set up the week before
- unloading plant material (most likely Thursday, May 17, and Friday morning, May 18).

In addition, the expanded format will require additional—

- cashiers and ticket writers
- plant experts
- parking attendants
- bookdonations and bake-sale items.

## Acorn Shop

The Acorn Shop will open the week of May 14. We need help with set-up, ordering merchandise, cashiering and sales. We also will need help in the Acorn Shop, especially on Plant Sale Sunday, since we expect additional vendors to participate in the debut of Artisans' Sunday.

## Upcoming Events

And because it is never too early to plan and prepare, consider proactive support of these upcoming projects that would all benefit from your personal touch and skill:

- National Trails Day, June 2
- The Second Annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Twilight Dinner, June 16
- ARC/Arboretum FLAME soft-rock concert, July 21
- Lape Day, August 19
- Fall Plant Sale, September 15–16
- Family-fun 5-K Walk/Run, September 1

## Flexible—With Open Arms

Although I've been at the Arboretum for only a few months, I see how critical volunteers are to making the Arboretum the magical place it is for everyone who visits. Some volunteers come on a regular schedule; others help with specific tasks or special events. You may prefer “on call” status. We are flexible. Whatever you decide, you'll be part of the common thread that links our volunteer team—a love of Landis, a willingness to help wherever and whenever needed, and the deep satisfaction of helping to make things happen.

When people come together doing what they love at a place they believe in, long-lasting friendships bloom as we work, share, and learn from one another. Please call or e-mail me or stop by the office. I am at the office between 10 am and 2 pm, Monday through Friday. 518-875-6935; [landis@midtel.net](mailto:landis@midtel.net)

## WISH LIST

### Equipment Wish List

We are looking for the following items (or estimated dollar amount to purchase items).

- 10 pairs of snowshoes
- Picnic tables and benches (\$250)
- Hardback rakes, shovels, loppers, and mulch fork (\$200)
- Hand cart (\$200)

And always, the large tractor—

- A John Deere 790 (or machine of equal quality) 4wd, 30hp, with backhoe and loader (\$20,000)
- Snow blower
- Used toner printer cartridges

### Project Wish List

We are looking for volunteers familiar with the following tasks (or equivalent dollar amount to complete these projects).

- Plumber for odds and ends (\$300)
- Mechanic to work on our pickup trucks
- Stone walls around the greenhouse and walls around perennial garden need rebuilding. (\$800)

### Education Wish List

- Wildlife guides
- Insect collections
- Compasses, trowels, pond ID books
- Bird seed (sunflower hearts, suet, or niger seed)
- Tree identification books
- Leaf identification books
- White enamel pans
- Tall rubber boots
- Walkie-talkies
- Environmental science tools
- GPS for bluebird nest monitoring
- Art supplies

### Donations

- \$3,000 (ea.) for printing new and updated brochures (determined by quantity)

## LANDIS PORTRAITS

### A series about the people behind the plants at the Arboretum

by Nolan Marciniac

#### Trina Bassoff



Trina Bassoff remembered that first winter six years ago when she moved from Brooklyn to Upstate New York. “I couldn’t ever get warmed up. Indoors, outdoors—it didn’t matter. I was cold for three or four months.” Winter driving was another challenge. The absence of city lights took some getting used to.

But Trina hasn’t been back to the City in three years now. And over the years, her original 2 acre site in Blenheim with a shell of a cabin has now become nearly 25 acres and a house. The solitude, the closeness to nature, and the “feeling of wilderness” have made what was, in her words, a “tremendous transition” worthwhile.

Trina earned her doctorate in biological anthropology from NYU. She left her job as an epidemiologist with the New York City Department of Health to pursue a degree in wildlife management at SUNY Cobleskill.

Trina was first introduced to Landis as part of a 600-hour internship program with master bird bander Bob Yunick. At Landis, she worked to monitor the bluebird nesting boxes and to survey the breeding birds on the Arboretum’s property. Soon, however, she was pruning, planting, and maintaining the tree database. The original sixteen nesting boxes gradually became forty. And Trina became a regular volunteer. “I feel an obligation to the birds,” she said. “I would feel guilty if I didn’t come here at least once a week.”

She pointed out the incredible diversity of birdlife in the Arboretum’s woods and wetlands. She has recorded more than eighty species during the breeding season, including such rarities as the golden winged warbler and the prairie warbler. Trina is attracted to the undeveloped, the uninhabited, the untouched parts of the Arboretum’s holdings.

Once, however, those remoter tracts of the Arboretum proved a challenge to this native New Yorker. During a driving rainstorm, Trina missed a shortcut and ended up “completely lost” for about two and a half hours. At last, dripping wet and exhausted, she happened across a road and flagged down a motorist, who brought her back to Landis.

But even that episode has not dampened her enthusiasm for the Arboretum.

#### Anne Jaster



“The Arboretum is my church... and heaven is here, all around us. Look at the venation on the iris—it’s just miraculous. The Arboretum makes us stop and look at these things,” she said.

Anne Jaster remembers her first visit to Landis

more than twenty years ago. Fred Lape invited Anne and her mother into the “unimproved” farmhouse—she noted the hand pump in the kitchen. On another occasion, she investigated the Quarry Garden, then overrun with sawgrass, with Alpine specialist Kathie Lippett. Then, as a “fledgling” volunteer, she did, as she says, her fair share of weeding. She served on the Board of Trustees for six years and as its president from 1992 to 1994. Although she admits she is quite content “not leading,” she accepted the position because she saw it as a “leadership opportunity,” her mission to bring structure to an organization she grew to love and to write its policies.

Anne trained as an artist and has taught art in both elementary and high schools. Her passion is botanical illustration, which she pursues in a variety of media. She has taken her talent to many places in the world, notably Chile and Paraguay, and she has shared her gift by teaching several classes at the Arboretum. “Nature is art,” she reminds us. “If people really want to know a plant, they should draw it, see what it’s all about.”

Her current project is a comprehensive illustration of the flora of the Pinebush, including the insects that feed that these plants, most famously the Karner Blue butterfly.

Anne’s association with the Arboretum has been both a “privilege” and “pure affection.” She had the opportunity to share, first-hand, in the Arboretum’s history, working with Fred Lape’s personal library as well as with his correspondence with horticulturists all over the world. And there have been simpler moments of privilege too: one evening after teaching a drawing class, she was moved by the unexpected sighting of a woodcock in the gully near the farmhouse.

Over the years, she maintains, Landis has met all her needs. Anne would encourage all new members and volunteers to experience what she’s found at the Arboretum—“the personal relationships that can develop, the learning activities that are always there—and, above all, the spiritual renewal that comes on a long walk” on the grounds.

# It Takes a Village—and You, Too...

by Anne Donnelly

## Teamwork. Alliances. Partnerships

The Arboretum and, in particular, the Education Committee are exploring these concepts for innovative ways to breathe new life into our educational mission. At the same time, we remain mindful that our efforts must be economically viable in an organization already challenged in securing day-to-day operating funds.

In a noteworthy step in the exploration of new directions and new horizons, we welcome new Board member Bill Danielson to the Education Committee. Bill is currently a teacher—biology and chemistry at Pittsfield High School, Pittsfield, MA; an author—*Speaking of Nature* (2001), twenty-eight chapters aimed at a diverse audience interested in nature and the environment; and a researcher, writer, editor, and photographer whose work has appeared in *The Recorder* in Greenfield, MA, *The Gazette* in Northampton, MA, and *Nature Photographer Magazine*. His presence as a subject matter expert can only help our efforts.

Along with the entire Arboretum, the Education Committee continues to assess its strengths and weaknesses in a time of change and transition. Our generous benefactor, Rob van der Stricht died in December. His passing is a loss both to all who knew him and to the Arboretum. Rob had funded the Education Director/Volunteer Coordinator position held by Susan Carver.

Effective at the end of February, Susan transitioned from the Arboretum's Education Director to freelance/independent instructor/educator—similar to other instructors associated with Arboretum programs (e.g., Kerry Mendez, Ed Miller, George Steele, David Yarrow, and Tressa Vellozzi). Susan will work on a contractual basis to teach the educational programs she had been scheduled to teach through mid-summer. She will receive compensation with incentives should any of her programs exceed a minimum of ten participants, based on the new business model now used by the Arboretum. This change reflects an innovative strategy by the Arboretum to fulfill its educational mission while working toward financial viability and to reward those who contribute proactively to our success.

Going forward, we plan to offer the Arboretum as a premier site for programs of all kinds, to promote them heavily, and to share in the proceeds. As an example, we have an Arbor



**Super volunteer, Jane Kirstel (right) looks on, Susan Carver opens gifts at the party in her honor given by Landis staff.**

Day event with a June field trip to the Arboretum involving 300 sixth graders from the Amsterdam Public Schools—and more inquiries for programs with other schools coming in. Each call or inquiry represents a wonderful opportunity to bring youngsters and new people to the Arboretum, many for the first time. This change reflects an innovative strategy by the Arboretum to fulfill its educational mission while working toward financial viability and to reward those who contribute to our success.

In March, Board President Barbara Brabetz and I issued an invitation to a newly constituted list of more than 400 educators to explore opportunities at the Arboretum. Thanks to our hard-working Arboretum staff, we were able to secure additional lists from the Schenectady and Schoharie chambers of commerce. We also invited other non-profits (as well as the New York Power Authority) that have educational formats to “share our envelope” (and postage too!) to reinforce the fact that education is an integral part of our mission—and achieving it often works best in tandem with like-minded organizations.

## Exciting times!

The Education Committee is eager to attract more instructors who see the inherent values of the 548-acre natural campus of the Arboretum as a way of enriching their course offerings. We are eager, too, to plan and schedule programs after our present calendar expires. It takes a long time to create a meaningful events calendar and to GET IT OUT! We know that **now** is the time to formulate the

next calendar, which needs to be completed and distribution-ready by mid-July.

## Call to Members

By now, most readers have seen the winter newsletter, “Coming Attractions,” and the brochures for horticulture certification and non-certification courses offered in conjunction with SUNY. No doubt you have also noticed our outreach efforts elsewhere as well. We are being noticed! Our calendar of events was in great demand at the Capital District Garden and Flower Show. Our booth was interesting and inviting, thanks to the planning and hard work of many. (Be sure to read Judy Puddester's column for details.)

With that exciting entry into the new season, we push forward with determination. Work is under way to expand our list of educators/instructors from within the ranks of our board, volunteers, and members—people like you who would be available to host a set program on-demand if a school or other institution calls asking for a visit. Already we have had inquiries from schools as far away as Vermont and Pennsylvania. Going forward, we need your help.

Do you know someone who would like their work showcased by the Arboretum? Would you like to present an educational program of any kind that makes best use of our extensive grounds and facilities—from field exploration to art or photography? Is there a topic you would like to see presented at the Arboretum? May we contact you for help if a school asks to visit the Arboretum for an educational field trip?

Would you serve on the Education Committee? Current members are Anne Donnelly (Board Champion), Board members Bill Danielson, Jerry Peters, and Jeff Schworm, Jano Nightingale and JJ Schell of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Cobleskill, and John McKeeby of the award-winning Schoharie River Project are also members.

The Arboretum and I await your positive responses. Working in partnership and in the spirit of generosity that are hallmarks of our Arboretum, we will continue on our planned journey to make the Arboretum an acknowledged center of excellence for continuing education for inquiring minds and students—no matter what our age! Call the office (518-875-6935) or email Anne Donnelly at [donnellal@cobleskill.edu](mailto:donnellal@cobleskill.edu).

## Save the Date

# SPRING/SUMMER SPECIAL EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

*From time to time as space permits, this Newsletter will highlight events at regional horticultural, environmental, and educational organizations that maybe of interest to Arboretum members. Mark your calendar—and tell us what you think.*

### Talk to Mark Linnaeus Anniversary

**June 5, 6 pm. (Tuesday)**

2007 marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of the Swede Carl Linnaeus, one of the founders of modern botany. Commemorations will take place throughout the world—including a talk at Old Fort Johnson, sponsored by the Montgomery County Historical Society.

Paula Ivaska Robbins, the author of *The Travels of Peter Kalm, Finnish-Swedish Naturalist through Colonial America 1748–1751*, will speak and sign copies of her book at the Fort.

Dr. Robbins' book is a biography of the 18th Century naturalist Peter Kalm, who traveled through the Mohawk Valley and corresponded with Sir William Johnson during his travels. He spent several days with Colonel Johnson en route from Philadelphia to Niagara Falls. Linnaeus sent his student Kalm to America in 1748 to collect specimens of plants and animals from the New World.

Linnaeus' most important work, *Species Plantarum*, published in 1753, is regarded as the foundation for the Latin binomial system of plant classification. Kalm was the discoverer of ninety of the North American plants listed in Linnaeus' work, of which sixty were new to science. Linnaeus named the mountain laurel *Kalmia latifolia* in honor of Kalm. It is the state flower of Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Old Fort Johnson is located just west of the city of Amsterdam on Route 5.

Further information about Old Fort Johnson and Dr. Robbins' talk is available at 518-843-0300 or [www.oldfortjohnson.org](http://www.oldfortjohnson.org).

The event is free to the public, but donations are greatly appreciated.

### TreePlanting 101

**May 12, 10–11 AM (Saturday)**

Prepare to plant all of the trees you are going to buy at the Plant Sale with Master Gardener and forester Cindy King. Cindy will discuss mulching, planting depth, staking, and other topics during this program. Register by May 9. Suggested donation, \$5/person.

### Terrific Tufa

**May 21, 4–6:30pm (Monday)**

Hypertufa is an artificial stone material that's easy to mix up and make a wide variety of garden containers, sculptures, and more. Start with the basics and make a small planter for a container garden. An outdoor program. Please wear clothes you do not mind getting dirty.

Register by May 18. \$15 members. \$25 non-members. Susan A. Carver, Instructor.

### Design a Container Garden

**May 23, 4–6pm (Wednesday)**

Create a beautiful, handcrafted container garden. Plantscapes owner and Landis trustee Donna Vincent will discuss the elements of container garden design and maintenance and provide the container and plants for a small garden.

Register by May 16. \$20 members, \$35 non-members. Location: Plantscapes, Duaneburg.

### Bus Trip ToCornell Plantations

**May 30, 6:45 am–6 pm (Wednesday)**

Take a guided tour of both the perennial gardens and the arboretum at the Cornell Plantations, have lunch on our own in one of many the restaurants in the Ithaca Commons, the pedestrian mall in downtown Ithaca, visit the Ithaca Children's Garden, and stop by Baker's Acres, a nursery specializing in perennials. Departs from Wade Bus terminal in Rotterdam. Space is limited.

Register by May 1. \$50 member, \$65 non-members. Susan A. Carver, Educator.

### Grounds for Celebration at Historic Cherry Hill

**June 3, 2007 1 – 4 PM (Saturday)**

An afternoon celebration of the revitalization of the gardens of Historic Cherry Hill. For the past three years, Master Gardeners from the Albany County Program have been restoring the gardens of Emily Rankin and will unveil newly reconstructed garden features including an arbor and a garden temple. Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions and for several lectures, including one on peonies, a favorite plant in Emily's garden. The event will include music and a drawing for a special gardening gift! Historic Cherry Hill, 523-½ South Pearl Street, Albany.

No charge. Call 518-434-4791

### Second Annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Twilight Supper

*Saturday, June 16, 5–9 pm  
at the Arboretum*



**June 16, 5pm TBA (Saturday)**

Please join us in celebrating a wonderful summer evening. Tours of the Arboretum's gardens and collections will require walking over a natural terrain—please bring appropriate shoes.

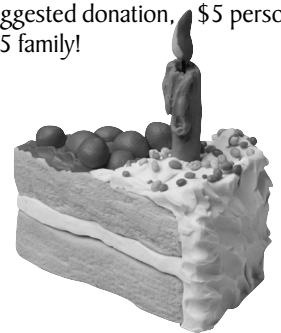
For more information, call the Arboretum office at 518-875-693. Save the date and stay tuned for evolving details.

### Fred Lape Birthday Bash

**August 19, 1–?pm (Sunday)**

Artisans, artists, musicians, photographers, performance artists, and vendors converge for an afternoon open-mike celebration of Arboretum founder Fred Lape's 107th birthday.

Suggested donation, \$5 person, \$15 family!



**WEEKENDERS**  
*For the Life you Love*

**LISA K. MURPHY**  
**#36699**

Independent Fashion Coordinator  
[www.weekendersusa.com/lisaandlife](http://www.weekendersusa.com/lisaandlife)

2349 Schoharie Tpke.  
Duaneburg, NY 12056-2810  
Phone: (518) 895-8529  
[clothes4u@att.net](mailto:clothes4u@att.net)