



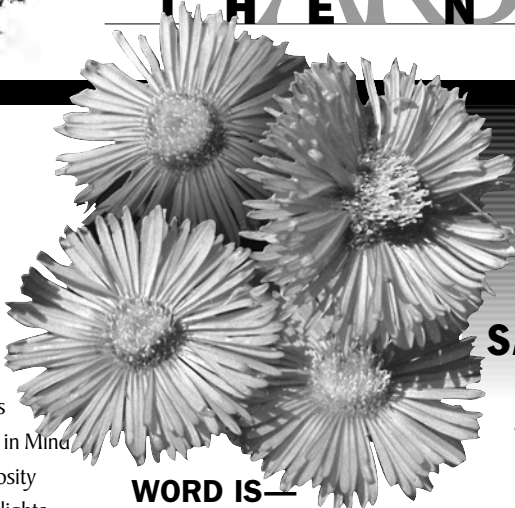
LANDIS ARBORETUM

THE NEWSLETTER

Esperance, New York

SUMMER 2007

VOLUME 26, NO. 3



FALL PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 10 AM TO 4 PM

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WORD IS—

You can get GRASS at Landis Arboretum! Well, sure: ornamental grasses of many kinds will be available for sale at our Fall Sale this year. *Miscanthus*, *Calamagrostis*, *Pennisetum*, *Panicum*, *Festuca*—and just about everything but *Cannabis*. All of the grasses offered are suitable and cold-hardy for Zones 4 and 5. The selections will be extensive!

One of these, *Calamagrostis acutiflora* 'Karl Forester,' has been selected for the new hillside plantings above the main parking area across the road from the Farm House. This natural hybrid was discovered in Germany at the Hamburg Botanical Garden by German nurseryman Karl Forester around 1950. It is a cool season grower that likes moist, heavy soils and has non-fertile seed heads, so it can be used in mass

Jeff Schworm

plantings without fear of invasiveness. "Feather reed grass" is hardy to Zone 4 and provides a sturdy upright growth to 5 feet with lush green giving way to a purplish maturing seedhead that finally turns golden, reminiscent of a grain field in late summer. Another great grass featured on the hillside is *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Purpureus,' or "purple maiden grass." If there were no other grasses on earth but *Miscanthus*, I think I would still be quite well satisfied. However, if given a second choice, another favorite is *Helictotrichon sempervirens* or (for less talented linguists like myself), "blue oat grass." Under ideal conditions, the plant grows to about 2 feet tall by 3 feet wide and features flat powder blue foliage topped with blue flowers which mature into oat-like seedheads. Well drained soil is important for overwintering, as

the plant does not tolerate cold wet feet (not unlike many of us).

Even if grass is not your thing, you will still enjoy the Fall Plant Sale. There will be many great buys and closeouts from several area consignors and possibly a few items that didn't make the hillside plantings. We always enjoy putting the fall display together because the colors are so vibrant. Rich reds and yellows stand out against abundant green. As always, we'll have lots of perennials along with a mixed bag of shrubs and trees. The ever wild and crazy conifer gang will make some noise and feature a cute bunch of inexpensive little Black Hills spruce. Mums, asters, and much more...

Are you coming or what?

—more on page 12

Proceeds to benefit Landis Arboretum. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Annual Arboretum Winter Dinner at The Crossings, Colonie, on Saturday, December 8, 4:30-8:30 pm, (see page 8).

Only 350 Tickets @ \$100 Will Be Sold!

Three Ways to Win!

- First prize:
MINI Cooper (\$20,000 value)
- Second prize: \$250
- 3rd prize: \$150



Compact Powerhouse **Keeler**
MOTOR CAR COMPANY
On the Road to a Cleaner Environment

Proceeds to benefit the Landis Arboretum. Winning tickets to be drawn at Landis Arboretum Holiday Event in December 2007. Please read disclaimer and acknowledgement on back of ticket.
Keeler MINI, 1111 Troy-Schenectady Road Latham NY 12110 • 518-785-4197 • www.keelermotors.com
Landis Arboretum, PO Box 186, Esperance, NY 12066 • 518-875-6935 • landis@midtel.net

Membership Matters!



Effective October 1, rates for membership will increase, reflecting escalating costs at all levels within the Arboretum. The basic level of membership will change from Individual to Household to streamline database management associated with evolving household demographics. We invite you to renew before the October 1 change. Simply call the Arboretum at 875-6935 or write to PO Box 186, Esperance, NY 12066 or info@landisarboretum.org. **Your membership does matter!**

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 Gutbezah, Sonja Javarone, Nolan Marciniac, and Thom O'Connor

COPY EDITORS

Sonja Javarone, Cynthia King, and Nolan Marciniac

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Sue Gutbezah

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Barbara Brabetz, Fred Breglia, Anne Donnelly, Sonja Javarone, Nolan Marciniac, Ed Miller, Thom O'Connor, and Jeff Schworm

PRINTER

Miller Printing and Litho Amsterdam, NY

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Thom O'Connor, *Executive Director*
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Erin McKenna, *Gardener*
Vicki Hazzard, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Address correspondence to:

Publications Committee, 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.

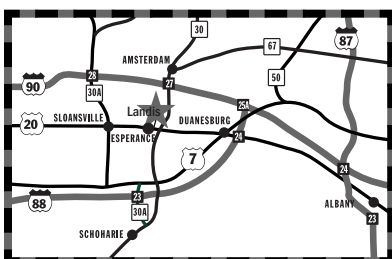


Photo: Ken Nichols



At Large

Thom O'Connor

Fred Honored

Yet again Arboretum arborist Fred Breglia is recognized for outstanding achievement—most recently by the State University of New York as it

marks the 40th anniversary of its Educational Opportunity Program. EOP selected Fred as one of 40 graduates representative of the tens of thousands who have passed through the program in its four decade history. The EOP commendation follows closely on the heels of Fred's selection as one of the Capital Region's 40 Under Forty young entrepreneurs by the *Business Review* and his designation as SUNY Cobleskill's 2007 Alumnus of the Year...

Welcome to—

• longtime Arboretum member Dick Clowe who bravely volunteered to serve as chair of the Arboretum's Buildings and Grounds Committee. *By his deeds you shall know him....*

Thanks to—

• trustee Gerald Peters and his wife Janice. Both have volunteered to analyze and manage the Arboretum's database with the goal of streamlining the membership renewal and update processes. Complete and up-to-date information about our members is critical to the effective operation of the Arboretum.

• Landis trustee and DEC ranger Tom Edmunds for his work with son Clay (photo below), trustee Ken Hotopp, and tireless volunteer Ben Fox for work to install the new door to the Farm House. The Acorn Shop door is expected to be in place when you come to the Plant Sale. Both doors reflect the beneficence of Barbara (Acorn Barb) Hunt and Marian Hotopp. Thanks to all for helping put our best foot forward....



ARC/Arboretum in Wanderland

Close to 250 people from five counties gathered for a midday concert with Fulton County's award-winning soft rock band FLAME and the spirited Ms. Cherie and the Hot Pots. Assemblyman Peter Lopez, 127 Assembly District, longstanding supporter of ARC initiatives, emceed the event. In the spirit of the day, the ARC Foundation donated the huge tent (\$900+) required for the event, and Esperance Elks Lodge #2507 donated the food and beverages, as well as

—continued on page 11



Photos by Bill Danielsen

(Above, left to right) Fred Breglia accepts donation for the Wanderland Accessible Garden Project from Elks William Franklin Fowler and Daryl Cummings. In addition to a \$500 cash donation, the Esperance Elks contributed the proceeds of its concession stands at the FLAME concert, a total of more than \$900.

Assemblyman and ARC and Arboretum supporter Peter Lopez (below, center), 127 District, accepts a copy of the Wanderland Accessible Garden Project poster from Tammy Rumph and Thom O'Connor.



Many of the 250 attendees at the event signed the poster during the concert, which featured award-winning Fulton County band FLAME and Schoharie County's Ms. Cherie and the Hot Pots (below).





COLLECTIONS NEWS

Fred Breglia, Director of Horticulture and Operations

BG BASE

As one of the principals behind the industry standard software called BG-BASE, Mike O'Neal visited the Landis Arboretum in May and installed the latest release of BG-BASE to facilitate tracking of our collections and sharing that information with scientific organizations worldwide. The new database is linked to our mapping software. This is the first step in the implementation of "PlantCollections™—A Community Solution," a shared system that will enable multiple institutions to access and integrate a comprehensive inventory of plants within their collections. It represents the initial phase in coordinating a continent-wide approach to plant germplasm preservation. (Germplasm refers to the genetic resources or DNA that contains the instructions specifying the biological development of all cellular forms of life and many viruses.)



Mike O'Neal, BG-BASE developer and trainer met with Fred, Chris Cash, and Sonja Javarone for two days.

APGA National Conference

In June, I represented the Landis Arboretum at the American Public Garden Association's national meeting in Washington, DC. We were originally scheduled to receive the PlantCollections™ server in February 2008, but following months of online

...Landis expects to partner with educational institutions like SUNY Cobleskill...

conferencing among members to agree on best practices in concert with the emerging technology, the date was postponed until October 2008. My attendance at this conference contributed immeasurably to the successful implementation of the project, as well as giving me first-hand accounts and insights that will lead to a better understanding of the complexities of the technical processes and layering of the database. Because Landis expects to partner with educational institutions like SUNY Cobleskill in sharing the wealth of information that will comprise this national database, the more we know, the more value we can bring to the Arboretum and to those working with us.

ISA World Conference

I attended the International Society of Arboriculture's world conference held in Hawaii from July 28 until August 1, 2007. Attending conferences like this helps the Arboretum to attain leverage at such industry-defining events. It also offers an opportunity to draw upon the professional expertise, insights, and support of the world's best educators while expanding our own sphere of influence in the field of arboriculture. This conference added immeasurably to my expanding knowledge of and voracious appetite for arboriculture and its impact on our own community and, increasingly, on the world at large. Each day, we learn more about the interconnectedness of all natural systems and their collective impact on global sustainability.

Stanley Smith Landscape Grant

In August and September, we will be implementing the grant for landscaping the hillside above the entry to the Arboretum from the lower parking lot. This grant will also cover the cost of new dwarf conifers to be introduced into the Quarry Garden. We will be installing \$10,000 worth of landscape with the help of White Birch Nurseries and the Brickman Group. Funding for this grant was provided by the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust.

Trail Markers Donated

The Arboretum continues to be surprised by the generosity of our circle of the friends and volunteers who are at the heart of its ability to function as a non-profit enterprise and community garden of trees, shrubs, and flowers. In the spirit of National Trail Days, area residents and Arboretum members Cheryl and Steve Perog of Capitol Supply, Inc. in Duaneburg, NY, donated 500 weather-resistant trail markers to highlight the boundaries of the Ancient Forest Trail, one of the main trails at the Arboretum. These green markers will be timeless reminders of the Perogs. Since our goal is to color-code and clearly define each of the trails for the enjoy-

ment and safety of visitors, that project will provide an opportunity for others who wish to underwrite the cost of additional markers. Let me know if you can help.

Farewell to Dur

I am sorry to say that Landis volunteer Durward Degroff passed away a few months ago. Dur, as he liked to be called, was always willing to help with any project. He built many practical items for the office, such as the platform to level the copier (old farmhouse floors are never level) and a shelf on the wall to accommodate one of the printers from the office manager's desk. In addition, Dur also built ten incredible benches for our trails, made from second-hand pressure treated deck boards. And he never showed up without his homemade jams and jellies.

We will miss you, Dur.

New Intern

Lois Gundrum is a new intern working with me on arboriculture this summer. Lois is attending college at Paul Smith's in the Adirondacks and is using her experience here at Landis to gain valuable first-hand knowledge of pruning, insect, and disease diagnostics, and general horticulture. We are happy to have her!

Fred's Timely Tips

Summer Water To Overwinter Trees

One of the best ways to insure winter survival of trees and shrubs is to supply them with adequate water during the month of August. Trees and shrubs store much of the energy they need for regrowth the following season in August. Watering trees in August provides critical water during a normally dry time of year and is one of the best ways to increase winter hardiness.



Keeping the Plan in Mind

Barbara Brabetz, Board President

Whether you're an everyday volunteer or an over-extended and busy member who visits us only on plant-sale weekends, chances are you've met our great staff at Landis. There's Fred Breglia, our tree guru and head of operations; Erin McKenna, our knowledgeable and hard-working gardener; Thom "Powerhouse" O'Connor, our driven executive director; and, of course, our Office Phenoms. You know what they do for the Arboretum.

Our Board

But what about our Board? What is it that these 15 super volunteers do? What role do our trustees play at the Arboretum? It is not easy to respond to these questions with a few select phrases or sound bites.



Trustees (from left) Maria Kuethe, Barbara Brabetz, Jonathan DiCesare and Jim Paley take a break after one of their marathon meetings. Photo by James Goolsby, the Albany Times-Union

We are not, after all, horticulturists, office personnel, or executive directors. One could say with a fair measure of certainty, however, that we are a working "collective": men and women, working and retired, from assorted walks of life and with varied interests, who find common ground and, often, camaraderie in our service to the Arboretum.

Here, working in small groups and committees, we act as planners and long-term strategists for Landis. In broad-brush terms, we research, explore, and discuss possibilities and options to enhance our facilities; to optimize and leverage their use; to build our endowment; and to increase Arboretum membership through interesting, informative, and educational events, compelling fundraisers, and effective initiatives. All this while remaining true to the stated mission and vision of this fine institution. That's a lot to say, more to think about, and much more to do.

Earlier this year, your Board gathered for an annual planning retreat. The informal, but carefully planned, Saturday meeting gave us uninterrupted time to discuss and analyze both successes and failures of the past and look forward to what and where we want the Arboretum to be in the not-too-distant future. Collectively and painstakingly, we compiled a list of what we have come to see as our organization's strengths—and weaknesses.

Weaknesses? In print? To the full membership? Yes. Yes. And yes again. I know I speak for our Board when I say that, together, we believe in the importance of not only cheering about successes, but also in understanding potential obstacles to future success.

Many non-profit organizations may, and do, list similar strengths and comparable weaknesses. As fiduciaries and the governing body of the Arboretum, we profit from the shared, innovative solutions of others; other organizations learn from us as well. Money—or more fundamentally, the lack of it—is always critical to any organization, not-for-profit or otherwise. Yet, what is abundantly clear from my perspective and first-hand experience is that the future of our wonderful

Strengths	Weaknesses
Volunteers, members, donors . . .	Aging, diminishing volunteer & membership base
Staff, leadership	Financial base, endowment
Location, assets	State of buildings, older equipment
Collections	Low number of staff
History, legacy	Growing pains as we expand
Activities, events, offerings	Low turnout for some programs

Arboretum—and its day-to-day, incremental successes—is less dependent on money than it is on another factor: people. Great people. Dependable people. You!

Our Members

Among the weaknesses listed above, the one that worries me most is the first—losing our members and invaluable volunteers for whatever reasons. Without them—without you—the heart blood that nourishes this institution, we would atrophy and fold.

You, dear members, are the true gatekeepers that preserve and protect our slice of nature's heaven and make it available to the public. It is you who enable and empower us to bring urban youngsters to their first forest experience. It is you who support staff members such as our own Fred Breglia who speaks on public radio with passion about trees to audiences listening in seven states, anxious for definitive words from Landis, the Capital Region's Arboretum.

People like you, valued members, make Landis a great place to visit—and even to work. Your Board knows this. We applaud you. We depend on you. You are, in fact, the most critical element in our strategic plan for our shaping and securing the future of our Arboretum.

For a list of volunteers, see page 8. Please join us.



A Victorian Curiosity for Modern Day Collectors: Camperdown Elm (*Ulmus glabra* 'Camperdownii')

Sonja Javarone

I have met a Camperdown elm in a magical garden of a friend, Grace Lomanto, in Gloversville. The Camperdown brought back a flood of memories. I played under the weeping branches of willows and hawthorns in my younger days. Here was a tree that surpassed all those others—a secluded retreat from the midday sun, a hiding place during hide-and-seek, a child's playhouse. But not only children are fascinated with this plant.

The Camperdown elm (*Ulmus glabra* 'Camperdownii') is a cultivar originating from a mutant plant found crawling along the ground by the Earl of Camperdown's head forester, David Taylor, in Dundee, Scotland. He had the insight to graft this oddity on elm rootstock. All Camperdowns are clones of this original mutant plant. The discovery was made about 1835-1840, just in time for the fashionable gardens of the Victorian Age. It also gained popularity in plantings in parks, home landscapes, cemeteries, university grounds, and arboreta in both Europe and the United States. It became a favorite memorial tree.

One famous Camperdown was planted in Prospect Park in New York City on Arbor Day, 1860. It is now old and ragged but still alive.

For the most part, Camperdown elms are resistant to Dutch elm disease, although no one seems to know why. One theory is that the beetle doesn't like short trees. As a precaution, the tree is sometimes treated against Dutch elm disease by micro-injection technology.

Camperdown House is now in a public park. "The house was built in 1828 for Robert Duncan, Earl of Camperdown and son of Admiral Duncan, who defeated the Dutch at the Battle of Camperdown in 1797," according to the local city website.

Lindsay Bond Totten, a writer and horticulturist, said it best: "Camperdown elm... is one of those extraordinarily rare deciduous plants that actually looks better in winter than at any other time of year." Landis will be watching. Several have been planted recently. One is between the farmhouse and the barn.

References

Camperdown elm. 2007 May 16 [cited 2007 Jun 12].

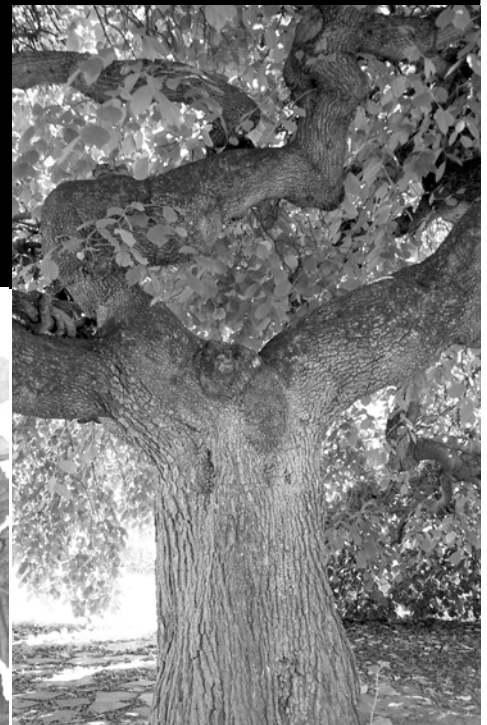
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Camperdown elm tree, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York. 2007 [cited 2007 Jun 12]. Available from: <http://www.fineartandhistory.com/capelm.htm>.

Camperdown Park. 2006 May [cited 2007 Jun 12]. Available from: <http://www.citylocal.co.uk/frontend/dundee/camperdownpark.php>. down.



This Camperdown elm is at the home of Grace and Angelo Lomanto, 36 Prospect Avenue, Gloversville, NY. It is estimated to be over 100 years old. Grace says, "Stop by and sign the guest book. Visitors stop all the time to see and photograph the tree" (above). Seeds of the elm (below). A view from underneath. (right). Photos by Sonja Javarone



Totten L. B. *When branchebare all*. 2007 [cited 2007 Jun 12].

Available from: http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/gl_seasonal_winter/article/0,1785,HGTV_3630_1394875,00.html.

Education Highlights

Anne Donnelly

One-hundred and ninety-eight sixth graders from nearby Amsterdam visited the forests and fields of Landis Arboretum.

In a single visit, they learned about ponds and trees, plant reproduction, and forest critters. From the smiles on their faces and involuntary expletives, it was clear that they took away memories that will last a lifetime.

The event, which stretched out over five days, was a challenge to schedule. Kathleen Kenneally and the wonderful team of sixth grade teachers who worked to make this valuable experience happen deserve high marks for effort and success. It was the finale of a project that began with Susan Carver's visit in early spring to facilitate an Arbor Day Assembly, which was followed by a tree planting ceremony at the school. Susan planned the field experience and was aided by Board member and outdoorsman Jerry Peters; as wildlife biologist and Landis volunteer Cody Baciuska; and seasoned forester and Landis trustee Ken Hotopp.

The third graders of Janice Managhan's Elmer Avenue School (Schenectady) class also visited on a rainy day in early June. Board member and biologist/naturalist Anne Donnelly led that day's wet, muddy, and thoroughly enjoyable expedition.

Photos by Pat Donnelly



Duanesburg Central School hosted a Turn Off the TV Week and offered students unplugged entertainment options. In all, 15 students and parents took advantage of an offer to visit the Arboretum. They hiked the trails and explored the ponds, catching and identifying frogs, turtles, snakes, and insects.

We delight in extending this opportunity to educators and bringing them together with young people and their parents at the Arboretum, many for the first time. The Arboretum is an excellent field station for nearby schools. To further our efforts, we continue to seek presenters who wish to use our facility to present their own unique programs.

Our Man of Steele

George Steele has joined the Education Committee. He has been an environmental science education consultant who has worked with a wide range of programs, including children's summer camps, museums, nature centers, outdoor education centers, state agencies, libraries, and schools throughout the Northeast. George earned his Bachelor of Science degree in forest biology with a major in wildlife biology from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He did graduate work in environmental education at the Antioch New England Graduate School in Keene, NH. George's professional experience includes 13 years with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. There he started as a wildlife technician in the Endangered Species Unit, working primarily with birds of prey—bald eagles, ospreys, and peregrine falcons. He then moved to the Environmental Education Unit, where, as an environmental educator III, he administered the Summer Environmental Education Camp Program.

"My interest in the environment and ecology", he tells us, "began with my experiences growing up in the southern Adirondacks of New York State. Much of this centered around my active participation in Boy Scouts. I enjoyed nine seasons working in summer camps, starting

with Camp Wakpominee (Mohican Council Boy Scout Camp) for five summers, a private co-ed camp in the Catskills for two summers, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Camp DeBruce in the Catskills for two summers."

George (photo, below) is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2002 Conservation Educator of the Year from the New York State Conservation Council and the 2003 New York State Outdoor Education



Association's Outdoor Educator Award. In addition, he received the 1989 Leadership Award from the New York State Outdoor Education Association. In 2005, he was honored with the

Sam Madison Award from the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club in recognition of his work in encouraging young people to appreciate and understand birds.

In the last few years, George has worked with dozens of schools and museums, including the Appalachian Mountain Club, the New York State Outdoor Education Association, SUNY Oneonta, the Regional Summer School of Excellence in Easton, Pennsylvania, and, of course, the Landis Arboretum. The Arboretum is pleased and honored with its continued partnership with George—and grateful that he has agreed to take that association to a new level of participation with his active presence as a member of our Education Committee.

More to Come

As part of our fall/winter program offerings, we will feature George Steele's popular weekend family programs: in August, "Pond Ecology" and "Insect Study," and in September, "Animal Tracks and Traces" and a bird feeder workshop. In October, he will offer both a fall foliage bird walk and a full-moon Halloween "Owl Prowl."

We plan to present a three-season (spring, fall, and winter) speaker series in the format either of a travelogue or a "meet the

—continued on page 7



Anne, with Aubrey and John LeClair visiting Arboretum from Alaska exploring a pond at the Tuesday Tickler.

LANDIS PORTRAITS

A series about the people behind the plants at the Arboretum

—by Nolan Marciniak

Lawson Harris



Lawson Harris was introduced to me as the Arboretum's "money man." For a long while, he donated two days of his time every week to bring order to the Arboretum's finances. He might prefer to say, however, that he has invested his time—and that investment, over the years, has paid dividends.

Lawson received a degree in mechanical engineering from MIT in 1950. Following a two-year stint in the Army, which included a year building roads in the rugged mountains of Korea, he earned a second degree and then a doctorate in electrical engineering from MIT.

Lawson was first introduced to Landis by a long-standing friend, Herm Finkbeiner (a "tree nut," according to Lawson). Both men came to GE's research facility in 1960, and their wives were both members of the "Newcomers' Club." Inspired by the trees he found at the Arboretum, Lawson began planting walnuts, hickories, and oaks on the grounds of his home in Glenville. After years of volunteering, he was invited to join the Board of Trustees in 2000. In 2001–2002 he managed Landis' spring and fall plant sales.

"I get my payment day by day," he said. "Anyone can learn a lot by talking with the people here, by working with them. I just like the people," whom he characterizes as "knowledgeable" and "friendly," people who "are willing to join in and work, not sit back and watch others work."

Since his retirement from GE in 1997 and in addition to his time spent at the Arboretum, Lawson's interest in beekeeping (he's kept bees since 1965), in managing his investments, and in the study of the historical and political aspects of Islam has kept him busy.

Lawson sees only possibilities at the Arboretum. He regards the recently improved public relations as a very positive sign for the future. He would like to see more members increase their level of financial support. He would also like to see more of Landis' 548-acre holding more actively used in the service of nature education. The greenhouse, too, might be more effectively utilized, as might the Meeting House.

But Lawson sees the future of the Arboretum in the young people who visit. "People who use the Arboretum will tend to be volunteers," he said. The view from the meeting house would certainly win them over—or helping at the plant sales—or just walking through the collection.

A simple investment and a multitude of returns. Just ask the "money man."

Ben Fox



Photo by Dick Danielsen

He said that his brother recommended a book to him, *Bowling Alone*, Robert Putnam's account of the fraying of the social fabric in America. And he remembered a picnic lunch with his family on a hot summer afternoon on a piney overlook at the

Arboretum. Then, somehow, both his reading and his experience came together to bring Ben Fox to volunteer at Landis.

A native Vermonter, Ben admits that he has been very successfully transplanted to Schoharie County, although it took him and his wife, a professor of bio-chemistry at Union College, six years to find just the right piece of property. "They'll have to carry me out on a board," he said. It took him more than a year to build their house, which will now become the garage, and he's about to begin construction on what will become the house. "Give a man a nail gun and ..." he mused.

A history major, he's driven a beer delivery truck and worked in a tile shop, assessing and improving the flow of the process. More recently, Ben's time has been spent not only constructing his home but also parenting his son Jed. Ben puts his building experience to service at the Arboretum, where his time is given to light construction projects—the shelves in the barn, for instance, or "Operation Re-Horse" [with Bob Olsen], which has put an end to the spontaneous collapse of plant-laden tables during the sale.

Ben and his wife Kristin maintain a vegetable garden as well as perennial plantings that reflect the classic New England sequence from lilacs through peonies to daylilies.

He likened the Arboretum to the hub of a wheel from which many spokes radiate out: so many different kinds of activities for so many different kinds of people with so many different kinds of talents and abilities, but all working together to move the Arboretum forward. Sometimes, he said, he's reminded of the Winslow Homer painting "Cracking the Whip," since the right person can "harness the energies of many individuals."

Ben values the time he spends with other volunteers, learning from their diverse interests and experiences—the contagious energy of Bob and Carol Olsen at the plant sales, for example, or Ed Miller's passion for native plants.

According to *Bowling Alone*, we build community by building social networks of which we are members. Ben Fox has taken that theory and put it into practice.

—from page 7

author" talk with our members as speakers. Full-moon and candle-light (!) snowshoe/ski hikes are also under consideration. Watch for these and other events that capitalize on our beautiful grounds and vistas in Coming Attractions.

Executive Director Thom O'Connor is fine-tuning collaborative educational programs and alliances with other county agencies such as the New York Power Authority, the Iroquois Museum, and the Old Stone Fort.

Bird's-Eye Endeavors

Landis Board president Barbara Brabetz and her husband Steve—both avid outdoor enthusiasts and seasoned birders—created and underwrote the production of a beautiful new bird checklist that highlights more than 125 species keyed to the season. The colorful checklist fits easily into a hip or back pocket for bird-spotting ventures.

For Barbara, who also serves as chair of the Natural Sciences Department at SUNY Cobleskill, the completed venture represents a long-time wish come to fruition. It features a stunning image of a male wood duck spotted at the Arboretum by Landis friend and nationally known nature photographer Bill Combs, Jr. (www.BillCombsJr.com), which forms the center panel of a tri-fold format designed by Lawyersville designer Joanna Quinton Bateman (www.JoannaBateman.com). The list, published by the Landis Arboretum, is available at the Arboretum Acorn Gift Shop or by mail order—and would make a wonderful gift for any birders or those would-be birders.

Thank You Thank You Thank You

We have much to be thankful for at the Arboretum.
A warm and heartfelt Great Oak hug to the following—in no particular order.

Bern Allanson	Kathy Horn	Bob Rynk	Pat Daley	Crossroads Gallery
Cody Baciуска	Marian Hotopp	Jeff Schworm	Sterling Insurance	White Birch Nursery & Landscape
Edith Balagh	Ken Hotopp	Beth See	Carol Loucks	The Farm Art & Antiques
Barbara Brabetz	Amy Howansky	Viktoria Serafin	Kathy Bottomly	Patti's Greenhouses
Anne Bevins	Diane Jankowski	Nathen Smith	Past Exalted Ruler Darryl Cummings,	Picture Perfect Landscaping
Howe Caves parking attendants	Anne Jaster	Jane Smith	Morgan Diamond	Parrot House Restaurant
John Brust	Sonja Javarone	Kathy Spofford	Brian and Randi Dunning	Bob Vincent
Warren Burton	Theresa Johnson	Nancy Steubner	William Franklin Fowler and Lu Fowler	Schoharie Valley Farms
Miriam Butzel	Wilma Jozwiak	Bonny Sweet	Roger Freund	The Carrot Barn
Carolyn Cancelliere	Sami Kadhim	Grace Trees	Kane Rockwell and fiancée Amy	All About Frames
Morgan Chichester	Wendy Kass	Scott Trees	Steven and Liz Robertson	WMHT TV
Marian Clowe	Bonnie Keller	Pam Trickett	Joan Sossei	Wellington's Herbs & Spices
Dick Clowe	Gail Kenler	Gloria Van Duyne	Burke and Lisa Tillman	Altamont Orchards
Art Coleman	Gail Kessler	Donna Vincent	Tablecloths for Granted	Lisa Murphy
Joan Cullen	Maria Kuethe	Janet Vinyard	Sweet Tooth Caterers	Ambiance Florals & Events
Joan Cullen	Cindy King	Cindy Whyte	Countryside Marts	Bella Fleur
Edith Cumini	Jane Kirstel	Ellen Wood	Eleanor Wages	Bud's Florist & Greenhouses
Patrick Daley	Carolyn Laberge	Pat Wozniak	Fred Breglia	Classica Florist
Jonathan DeCesare	Lee Lattimer	Toine Wyckoff	Cave Country Greenery	Doral's Touch of Class
Anne Donnelly	Barbara Manning	Nick Zabowsky	Colonial Acres Nursery	Felthousen's Florist
Kristen Dorsch	Nolan Marciniac	Gina Nielsen	Guernsey's Schoharie Nursery	Frank Gallo & Son Florist
Tom Dorsey	Diana Marek	Priscilla Harris	David MacDougall	Hotaling Florist
Tom Edmunds,	Jean Mastrani	Kim Mosteller	Karen Cooper	Randolph's Florist
Clay Edmunds	Erin McKenna	Chris Faulkner	Country Outlet	Speedling Florist
Carolyn Edwards	Claudia McLaughlin	Jonathan DiCesare	Gade Farm	The Country Florist
Rose Elliott	Edith Meaney	Patty Redlin	Larry Sombke	The Mill Farm
Melissa Ethan	Ed Miller	Anne Bevins	Liddledale Farm Nursery	Tri County Arts Council
Chris Faulkner	Kim Mosteller	Bonnie Keller	Bonnie Keller	Claudine Boerner
Ben Fox	Ron Neadle	Jodine Krause	NBT Bank, Duanesburg Branch	Jack McNerny
Allen French	Ron Neadle	Toine Wyckoff	Jerry Peters	Linda Moughemer
Jack Fritz	Bob Olsen	Veronica Drislane	Plantscapes Country Gardens,	Natural Foods & More
Barbara Gallagher	Carol Olsen	Maria Kuethe	Pondside Gardens	Karen Rosasco
Marie Giokas	Jim Paley	Dottie Gallo	Seagroatt Floral Co.	John Scarpulla
Sue Gutbezah	Thomas Persse	Heidi Stewarts	Seagroatt Riccardi	Theatre Project of Schoharie County
Lawson Harris	Jerry Peters	Susan Novotony, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza	The Shop at Noch Fiernan Farm	Tom Wadsworth, Musician
Rob Helfrich	Joanne Petrozzi-Jones	Roberta Brooks	Sunshine Gardens,	
Judy Helfrich	Jean Post Sourmail	Cat Nap Books	Mariaville Peat	
Bob Hennig	Merv Prichard	The Owl Pen Books	SUNY Cobleskill Bookstore	
Susan Hess	Judy Puddester	Judy Hauser	Quiltbug Shop	
Waynet Hinds	Ruth Ralston	Franklin Fowler, Top Shelf Construction		
Lynda & Jack Hockmuth	Levi Redlin	Darryl Cummings		
Annette Holowka	Paul Redlin			
	Bonnie Riddle			
	Peter Rumora			

Reflections on Rhododendrons

Ed Miller, Curator of the Native Plant Collection

Photo by Judy Puddister



Mitchell's 1997 *Flora of New York* lists eight species of *Rhododendron* native to the state. One is a rare alpine species that we do not intend to acquire. We have five of the others in our native plant collection located along the Willow Pond Trail. Two more, flame azalea (*R. calenduaceum*) and great laurel (*R. maximum*), are in the "deer proof" enclosure, along with various hybrids and horticultural varieties. Two of our five are growing in the bog garden. Labrador tea (*R. groenlandicum*, formerly *Ledum groenlandicum*) did bloom this year. Our rhodora (*R. canadense*) looks healthy but did not bloom this spring, which it would normally do before it leafs out. This rhododendron is very common in Maine and northern Vermont and New Hampshire but hard to find in the Adirondacks. Surprisingly, it is common



White swamp azaleas (*R. viscosum*)
Photo: Rhododendron Species Foundation and Botanical Garden

in the Poconos. Our plant is a gift from a friend in northern Vermont.

The white swamp azaleas (*R. viscosum*) of our native plant collection had their

cluster that did bloom this spring. The plant is located near the south end of the new bridge. It is so fragrant that I smelled it before I saw it. Our two pink azalea species were planted this spring at a location 600 feet along the Willow Pond Trail. They were obtained from the New England Wildflower Society. They are labeled with the new (1997) names, *R. periclymenoides* (formerly *R. nudiflorum*) and *R. prinophyllum* (formerly *R. roseum*). The old names are in Newcomb's field guide; the new names are listed in the *Revised Checklist of New York State Plants* (1997). There are so many common names—e.g., swamp pink, early azalea, etc.—that I will not list them. Neither of the pink azaleas bloomed this year and may not in the future, if the deer have their way. Since wire cages protected most of our pines last winter, I may fashion similar cages for these plants. The deer "enclosure" in the horticultural area is not the safe haven suggested by its 8-foot fence. The deer gained access this last winter and devastated the rhododendrons and other deer candy. We may do better with our cages. Note: *Rhododendron*, the genus, includes the plants having the common names rhododendron and azalea.

flower buds, the most nutritious part, browsed by deer this winter. However, the deer missed one bud

LETTERS



STATE OF NEW YORK

ELIOT SPITZER
GOVERNOR

August 3, 2007

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

Thank you for writing in support of increasing the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). As you may know, I have signed legislation into law that will increase revenue to the EPF from \$225 million to \$250 million in the 2008-09 fiscal year and to \$300 million the following year and thereafter.

The EPF is a pivotal funding source for our premier environmental programs. It is critically important that we advance our comprehensive environmental agenda which requires that we back up our ambitious policy objectives with appropriate funding.

I will also continue to support the "Bigger Better Bottle Bill," which would require a minimum five-cent deposit on non-carbonated beverages. The legislation also requires that unclaimed consumer deposits be placed in the EPF - which would conservatively bring a minimum of \$100 million in additional dollars into the Fund. This year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the State's successful "bottle bill." Next year should be the year we modernize the law so it can achieve even greater litter reduction and recycling goals.

The EPF provides money for recycling, landfill closure, urban parks, farmland preservation, open space, water quality and other programs. It is especially critical that we increase the Fund at this time as we move toward more environmentally sustainable policies throughout our great State.

Again, thank you for writing. We must all continue to work together to protect our environment.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thom O'Connor
Executive Director
Landis Arboretum Coalition of Living Museums
P.O. Box 186, Lape Road
Esperance, NY 12066

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER STATE CAPITOL ALBANY 12224
<http://www.state.ny.us>

Victorian Social Club

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

Thank you so much for allowing the Victorian Social Club and the Victorian Cultural League to hold our Queen's Birthday Celebration in the Meeting House at the Arboretum. It was the perfect space for the English Country Dance and the dessert social that were part of our celebration. We were also pleased to be able to visit the plant/book/artisan/bake sales at the Arboretum.

We appreciate the publicity that you gave our groups in your news releases. Everyone on your staff was extremely helpful in helping us to plan this event in advance and helping us on the day of the event. Please extend our thanks to them as well.

Our members loved the Meeting House and the grounds surrounding it. (We were also appreciative of the fact that the rain held off.) We did not get to explore as much as we had hoped because of the prior day's rain resulting in very wet trails. We would certainly consider returning for another event. Please accept [the donation]... as our thanks for these accommodations.

Sincerely yours,
Phyllis Ochs,
Victorian Social Club & Victorian Cultural League,
Schenectady, NY 12305

Save the Date

FALL SPECIAL EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

All events take place at Landis.
For information and registration,
call 875-6935 or e-mail
landis@midtel.net

SEPTEMBER

1 (Saturday) 8:30 am—until the excitement ends
THE FIRST ANNUAL ARBORETUM SK CROSS COUNTRY FOREST RUN
Run/Walk/Compete for Family Fun! Achieve your Personal Best! AND enjoy the spectacular views of the Schoharie countryside at the beautiful Landis Arboretum. Prizes awarded to runners in each age group in this timed event. All proceeds to benefit the non-profit Landis Arboretum. Race start: 10 am, Meeting House lawn. Race Day Registration: 8:30 am–9:30 am. For more information: 518-231-2290 or online, www.landis-arboretum.org or www.mapmyrun.com/event/united-states/ny/esperance/61542703. Tee shirts courtesy of Kintz Plastics, Howes Cave, NY. Run/Walk for the thrill of it!



7-8 (Friday and Saturday) 8:30 pm
PUBLIC STAR PARTY.
(see Star Parties, below).

8 (Saturday) 2-3:30 pm
ANIMAL TRACKS AND TRACES

Location: Meeting House
Many of the animals that live at the Arboretum are secretive and hard to find. Sometimes the only way we know they are there is by the tracks and traces—scat, chewings, nests they leave behind. Come and explore the woods to see what we might find. If the situation presents itself, we will make plaster casts of animal tracks that we find. Suggested free will donation, \$5

Instructor: George Steele

15-16 (Saturday-Sunday)
10 am-4 pm
ANNUAL ARBORETUM FALL PLANT, BOOK & BAKE SALE.

Free admission and free parking



SEPTEMBER

25 and October 2, 9 & 16 (Tuesdays)
6-8 pm
TREE AND SHRUB IDENTIFICATION

Location: Landis Arboretum Harkness Herbarium Complex (Library)
Using the outdoor laboratory of 548-acre Landis Arboretum, participants will learn how to recognize major trees and shrubs of the Northeast. They will also learn the basic plant structures used in identification. This course includes an introduction to many new and unusual ornamental trees that are available for use in the landscape. Broader knowledge and understanding of plants will guide participants in plant maintenance and health care decisions. Call the Arboretum to register. \$110

Fred Breglia, Director of Horticulture and Operations

30 (Sunday) 2-3:30 pm
BIRD FEEDER WORKSHOP

Location: Meeting House
Enjoy a workshop learning about bird feeding. We'll build some simple recycled bird feeders. (Bring three identical plastic sports drink containers—Gatorade works best). We'll discuss what feed to use, setting up feeders, and identifying the feathered visitors. Suggested free will donation: \$5
George Steele, Instructor.

OCTOBER

.....
October 1-12
PEAK FOLIAGE COLORS
Visit the Arboretum. Walk the trails. Come to where Mother Nature hits her high notes.
.....

5-6 (Friday-Saturday) 8 pm
PUBLIC STAR PARTY
(see Star Parties, below).

6 (Saturday) 2-3:30 pm
FALL FOLIAGE BIRD WALK
Location: Meeting House
Join members of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club as we enjoy an easy walk through the woods for glimpses of resident and migrant birds in the fall foliage. Suggested free will donation, \$5

George Steele, Instructor.

13 (Saturday) 9am-3pm
FALL WORKFEST
Bring your friends and your work gloves to Landis to get the grounds ready for winter. Come for part of the day or the full day. Light lunch provided. Bring a dessert to share.

SEPTEMBER

13 (Saturday) 7:30 pm
A WALK AMONG THE STARS
Constellation Tour (see Star Parties, below).

OCTOBER

20 (Saturday) 2-3:30 pm
MEET THE AUTHOR
Author Anita Sanchez (*The Teeth of the Lion: The Story of the Beloved and Despised Dandelion*) presents an outdoor walk to study some common plants and their lore, including the dandelion, their historical uses in medicine and as food.

26 (Friday) 7-8:30 pm
FULL MOON HALLOWEEN OWL PROWL
End the Family Program Season with our traditional Halloween Owl Prowl. Learn about our common owls—where they live, what they sound like, and what they do. Then take a short walk into the woods to see if we can hear one. Suggested free will donation: \$5

George Steele, Instructor.

NOVEMBER

3 (Saturday) 7 pm
A WALK AMONG THE STARS
Constellation Tour (see Star Parties, below).

9 (Friday) 8 pm
Public Star Party (see Star Parties, below).

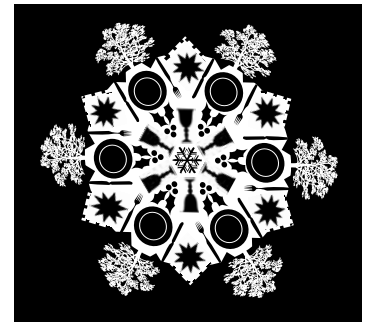
27 (Tuesday) 4-6:30 pm
MAKE A HOLIDAY WREATH
Location: Harkness Herbarium Complex (Library)
Create your own holiday wreath under the guidance of Plantscapes owner and Landis trustee Donna Vincent. Donna will provide the fresh balsam, ribbon, pinecones, and red berries for the wreath. Additional decorations will be available at an extra fee. Bring a pair of pruners. Registration by November 20. \$30 members, \$50 non-members.

DECEMBER

4 (Tuesday) 4-6 pm
CREATE A BOXWOOD TREE
Location: Harkness Herbarium Complex (Library)
Make an eye-catching 14" tall boxwood tree centerpiece under the tutelage of Plantscapes owner and Landis trustee Donna Vincent. Donna will provide all materials needed. Bring a pair of pruners. Registration by November 27. \$30 members, \$50 non-members.

DECEMBER

7 (Friday) 8 pm
PUBLIC STAR PARTY
(see Star Parties, below).



8 (Saturday) 4:30-8:30 pm
ANNUAL ARBORETUM WINTER DINNER-AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Location: The Crossings, Colonie. NY
Starting with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres, the evening will proceed to a tantalizing dinner and hand-made desserts. Musical entertainments. Professional caller Randy Passonno will add to the excitement as he conducts a LIVE auction culminating in the drawing for a 2007 MINI Cooper and this year's Arboretum quilt offering, "Migrating Geese and Cobblestones," a beautiful 64" x 85" hand-sewn, cotton quilt with batting. Mr. Passonno is President of Collar City Auction, a Licensed & Bonded Auctioneer and Certified Appraiser/Consultant, (www.collarcityauctions.com). Need more to entice you?

Save the date and watch the mail for more information.

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● **Star Parties**
● Location: Meeting House
● At public star parties, telescopes are set up to show guests sights in the night sky. The Walk Among the Stars programs include constellation tours, the myths and stories associated with the constellations, and hints on enjoying the night sky.
● Star Parties and A Walk Among the Stars programs are cancelled if the skies are mostly cloudy.
● Registration is encouraged by calling Alan French at 374-8460 so that we can call you if an event is canceled. You can also call to check about two hours before the start time if you did not register.
.....

At Large—from page 2.

the proceeds from the concession booths. Rob Hewit, new owner of Gotta-Go portable toilet rentals (Pattersonville) also contributed to the needs of the day and discounted the additional handicapped-accessible units required for the event. Work will begin on Wanderland in the Spring of 2008 with assistance from the Schoharie County ARC; the Elks Lodge of Esperance; staff support from SUNY Cobleskill; help from Capital Region BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services); and the steadfast commitment of the Arboretum's Horticulture and Buildings & Grounds committees and the volunteers that support them....

Your Miles Make Points with Us

We struggle with day-to-day operating expenses. Opportunities to participate in important industry events often go unattended because we don't have the funding to pay for travel expenses and admission fees. Consider donating some of your accumulated airline miles or redeem credit card points in gift cards payable to the Arboretum. We'll all be glad you did and the Arboretum will be grateful for your generosity....

Garden Party Bravas!

Congratulations to trustee Donna Vincent, who chaired the Second Annual Summer Solstice Soiree in June. New faces abounded, and first-time visitors experienced the Arboretum under ideal conditions that included a crimson sunset. In the words of one departing couple, "What a wonderful place. We'll be back!"....

Strut Your Noble Stuff

The First Annual Arboretum 5K Cross-County Forest Run takes place on Saturday, Sept 1. Run /Compete for Family Fun! Achieve your Personal Best! AND enjoy the spectacular views of the Schoharie countryside at the beautiful Landis Arboretum. Prizes awarded to runners in each age group in this timed event. All proceeds to benefit the Arboretum. **For more information: 518-231-2290**

Area Businesses Support Us.

As noted in Fred's *Collections News*, we continue to build/strengthen relationships with those who believe in our goals and support our mission. White Birch Nurseries and the Brickman Group are among these. Others—such as Carver Stone Products (Delanson) and Donna and Bob Vincent of Plantscapes (Duanesburg)—are also contributing to our physical plant. Carver will donate and deliver tons of stone and the Vincents have con-

tributed hours, expertise, and their sons to transform the carriage house off the Farm House into the new Acorn Visitor and Information Center. Bill Breen, manager of Sherwin Williams Paints (Schenectady) and member Dick Clowe contributed paint to brighten the enterprise...

Landis/NYPA Partner

"We're delighted to be partnering with the Landis Arboretum, teaming our resources so visitors can gain a greater understanding of how our attractions work in harmony with the environment," said Stephen Ramsey, Community Relations Manager at NYPA's Blenheim-Gilboa Project. To help individuals and families offset the continued rise in vacation travel costs, NYPA will offer visitors to its site a coupon redeemable at Landis for a chance to win a beautiful gift basket of gardening and nature-focused



Photo by Bill Danielsen

items. The winning ticket will be picked at the Arboretum's signature Fall Plant/Used Book/and Bake Sale on September 15-16. Arboretum visitors receive a coupon redeemable at NYPA that can be exchanged for an energy-efficient, 20-watt, mini-spiral light bulb designed to reduce energy consumption. The promotion lasts through September. The Arboretum also is working with NYPA to create a calendar of events and classes to take place at both venues. If you missed the wonderful article in the June issue of the *Catskill Mountain GUIDE* featuring the Arboretum, NYPA, and the writing of our own Ed Miller, see for yourself. (www.catskillmtn.org/publications/articles/2007-06-landis-arboretum-new-york-power-authority.html).

Unfortunately, this link does not include the beautiful images by natural photographer and Arboretum friend Bill Combs, Jr., but they can be found on our own website....

Web Feedback

Although construction continues, the newly designed Arboretum website is **UP!** **www.LandisArboretum.org**. Help us. Visit the site and alert us to glitches, misstatements, errors. And tell us some good things too....

Be A Landis Maven

We get proactive support from both WMHT-TV and WAMC. Individually and as



WMHT membership manager Sharon Schleicher and Landis trustee Ken Hotopp at the fund drive.

a team, we support their fund drives whenever possible. This has become more important than ever as we face increased challenges for visibility in all media and against other venues. When you pledge to these media outlets, please consider doing so in the name of the Landis Arboretum to keep our brand in the minds of Capital Region residents. Mention that you enjoy WAMC's Vox Pop Gardening Show especially when Fred Breglia is part of the mix. Your words and wishes do matter—to us and to them.

In Closing

PLEASE support those who support us! When making choices, look to the advertising supplement in this *Newsletter*. Entice friends and associates to do the same—and to join us as members and advertisers! Excelsior!

The Old Wesley
A Country Inn
B&B
Special Events
Schoharie, NY
(518)-295-7640
oldwes@midtel.net
www.oldwesley.com
Proprietors:
Susan Hurley
Joan Slingerland

SCHEDULE OF PLANT SALE EVENTS

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

• **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 on all topics including horticulture, nature & science, cooking, philosophy, self-help, sports, mystery, science fiction, and more.

• **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.

• **Car Raffle** Only 350 tickets @\$100 will be sold! 1st Prize, MINI Cooper motor car 2nd Prize, \$250; 3rd Prize, \$150. See page 1 for photo & information.

• **"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 (below).



WHEN YOU ATTEND THE PLANT SALE...

TO HELP YOU AND OUR VOLUNTEERS

- **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 4 pm, Sunday. Landis does not make deliveries and is not responsible for items left after 4 pm.

Call for volunteers

Fall Plant Sale—September 15 & 16

The Spring Plant Sale is still fresh in our minds and it is time again to start planning for the Fall Plant Sale. The needs are much the same starting with set-up Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. The sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday September 15 and 16, 9 am to 5 pm. In addition to set-up and display, we need cashiers and ticket writers, plant experts, parking attendants, book donations and sales, and help at the reference tent. Come all day or any part of a day.

Call **875-6935** or e-mail **landis@midtel.net** as soon as you know in which area you would like to help.

Thank you again for your time—and as always your participation is invaluable!

Jonathan DiCesare & friends staff the information tent at the Spring Plant Sale.



Mark & Jason from Scout Troop 501 help out at the Spring Plant Sale. Photos by Sonja Javarone

(518) 439-8105

Sandra S. Walck
Garden Design

Installation & Maintenance with Ecological Emphasis

20 Dykeman Road
Delmar, NY 12054

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.